

# MACLEAN'S

## THE MAVERICK

Canada's Steve Nash on basketball, life—and Iraq

## WORLD DOMINATION

Harlequin CEO Donna Hayes and her plans for women's fiction

## BOOM TOWNS EAST

Coining it in Atlantic Canada's major cities

# WAR: WHAT IS IT GOOD FOR?

As America's old friends give their answer, troubles mount for George W. Bush. The view from Europe BY JONATHON GATEHOUSE and ARTHUR KENT.

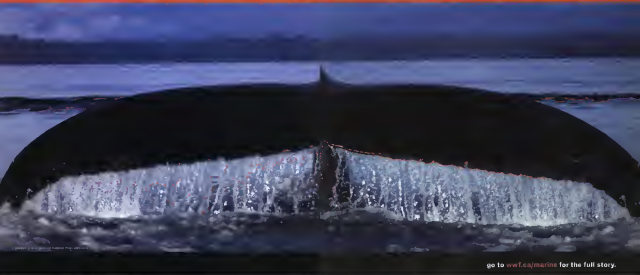


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## BORDERING ON ANGER

Canada's not alone—the U.S. is at odds with many old friends. Does it care?

AT AN EVENT IN OTTAWA (the 1st annual of its work, the main attraction was speech by Bill Graham, not foreign affairs minister). The point he made included these: contrary criticism, Canada's policy on Iraq is consistent and coherent, our relationship with Washington is strong, despite disagreements over war, Americans are prepared to ignore this disagreement in our other dealings, the proof is the regular high level contact between Canadian and American government officials (You can read Graham's news directly in an interview on page 32.)

Graham is smart, well-informed and judges wisely on his beliefs, and, like many of the people who attended, I left feeling quite a bit better about the state of the world, and Canada's place within. This lasted until I caught up with the morning's news—fortunately, among other things, Liberal MP Carolyn Parrish's description of American as "insatiable" and a "fat" "no" by Washington—in a place I learned to be a compromise proposed by Jean Chrétien that called for establishing a deadline for weapons inspections in Iraq. Oh, and the leader of Bulgaria gave the kind of shame-to-one-White House reaction with George W. Bush that the PM could never hope to land these days.

Graham is a eloquent a spokesman as the government has to deliver its message on foreign affairs these days—sadly, blame him for the fact he has such terrible material to work with. The problem with the liberals isn't that they're out of sync with Canadian strains toward the U.S. or, rather, they're representative. Views in the Liberal caucus range from the *mischievous* pro-Americanism of John Manley to the one-step-at-a-time, two-steps-back strategy of the Prime Minister, to Patrick, *Anti-Americanism* of the *Parliamentary* is simply no given as such, varying as individuals. But just as true, it is the other extreme: Canadians who take a curious, masochistic delight in every slight from the U.S., and who pressure, on every occasion that our views diverge, that we're wrong. If Canada-U.S. relations are

at low ebb these days—and they are—one big reason is that the Bush administration doesn't much care, one way or another.

Of course, that's also true of the White House view of almost every other country: one frequent criticism of the present administration is that it treats people, starting with George W. Bush and extending through to the near-evil Dick Cheney and even Colin Powell, don't get out much. They want for other leaders to visit, or at least their not making by telephone. If you want to build alliances, you have to show people that you're willing to work at them—and this White House seems to see diplomacy as a sign of weakness.

In this week's cover package, we focus on European attitudes toward the buildup to war, starting with Britain, where Tony Blair's pro-Bush stance has been widely mobile, and so on to the German's foreign minister. Our back page column looks at how the French react to France's leading in the U.S.'s initiative of a novel that Robert Kaplan describes in his new book, *Of Patriots and Power: Among Americans*, he writes: "The current stereotype of Europeans is easily summarized: Europeans are wimps."

One consequence of Sept. 11 is that it accelerated trends that might have taken years to develop—and our thinking hasn't kept pace. Americans view the outside world with a mix of arrogance and insecurity—the former springing from their enormous power, the latter from that day. The U.S. isn't the same country it was, which helps explain why it's fallen out with so many traditional old friends. We need to better understand this—but so, for that matter, do Americans.

Anthony Wilson-Smith

antonys@maclean.ca or comment to The Editor's Letter

## MACLEAN'S

Canada's most influential magazine

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Integrate systems across all business processes	IBM Business Consulting Services can help.	<a href="http://ibm.com/businessconsulting">ibm.com/businessconsulting</a>
Determine whether outsourcing or subcontracting an e-business on demand operation is best for us	IBM Business Consulting Services can help.	<a href="http://ibm.com/businessconsulting">ibm.com/businessconsulting</a>
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"The only valid statement on diets is the one attributed to the Duchess of Windsor, among others: "One can never be too rich or too thin." —**ANNE WILSON WEST, Oshkosh, Wis.**

#### Weighty matters

Do you suppose that obesity, especially among children, would be such an issue if a large percentage of our population was not packed up in minivans, driving around their suburban neighborhoods ("Diets what works, what doesn't," Cover, Feb. 24)? If children could walk to the movies, the store, to school or their friend's house, if large percentages of the population were not sitting in front of computers all day and children were not put in front of the TV, video games and computers, would so many in our society have weight and health issues? Whatever happened to children playing outside? Perhaps we should be looking at how we design our neighborhoods and recreation to make them more accessible by foot and bicycle. We should be teaching our children good eating habits from the beginning, and teaching them that sitting on the couch reading about diets is not going to make them healthy. Getting up and incorporating as much into our lifestyle as we will keep us, as a society, in much better health and weight.

**ANNE WILSON WEST, Oshkosh, Wis.**

Concerned as we are about grave world events and their possible outcomes, we engaged some cartoonists from the comments of our most renowned comic cartoonist, Mark Martin, encouraging him with his love of things and his inability to finish his \$500-a-plate dinner was result of eating too much. Thanks for the laugh.

**MARION AND ALAN SOMERS, McEwens Corners, Ont.**

I went to England from India in 1961 and converted from a strict vegetarian to an omnivore. My weight exploded from 112 to 150 lbs. within a few months. Major reductions in the amount I ate and a strict exercise regimen reduced my weight. I have found through constant weight-watching over 41 years that if you diet even for a week, you have a weight loss that comes with around the waistline. Even now, weighing myself every morning sets an alarm off



in my mind and I take action before it is too late. As a result, I have kept my weight, and my wife, over the years.

**HEIDI J. JELLS, Calgary**

Barbara Wilson, in writing about training to walk the Washington marathon—"We refused to say we were 'just' walking, we were, after all, doing the same strength-building exercises and distance training that the runners were"—downplays the accomplishments of those who run ("How to lose 50 lb. without dieting," Cover, Feb. 24). Comparing walking to running is like comparing apples to oranges.

**DAVID SHIMANOVY, Vancouver**

#### Biddle's fiddle

I was saddened to hear of Charlie Biddle's death (Panorama, Feb. 17). My wife and I spent some of our honeymoon in Montreal 16 years ago and one of the stops we made was at Charlie Biddle's club, in the old part of the city. Prince Oliver Jones and a drummer began the set. Charlie was not onstage, but showcasing overageously with his instruments. Then he made his way to the platform, raised his bow sprightly and began playing his baritone-sized fiddle to the strings. After the first number he introduced the trio, referring to him-

self as "Charlie Biddle, on the fiddle." What a raghe that was!

**PHIL MONK, Naperville, Ill. Lake, Ont.**

#### Pollution and fur coats

I am fascinated that so many people could jump to the conclusion that sport-utility vehicle owners are selfish, self-centred people ("The terrorist connection," The Mail, Feb. 24). I drive my SUV for work. As a sales rep, I need cargo room for carrying product and promo materials. Can we now talk about the people who own minivans, Jet Skis and motorboats, which serve little purpose save recreation/entertainment? Fuel consumption on these vehicles may be lower, but if we added it all up, I'm sure the figure would be something truly worth making a fuss over.

**JEANNE OLBICK, Cambridge, Ont.**

When comparing an SUV to a car, most people remember that wearing a little fur is not any better than wearing a lot of fat. So, driving any vehicle at all contributes to everything that an SUV consumes believes is wrong. Furthermore, do you purchase plastic? Plastic is made from oil. How do you heat your home? A necessity? If not, you may be supporting industries that are polluting the environment at a greater rate than SUVs. You can always the finger at SUV drivers, but there are several three fingers pointing back.

**OLGA TOMASEWICH, Sudbury, Ont.**

#### Sheila's campaign style

Anthony Wilson Smith got it right when he wrote "Colpas will redefine the Liberal race" (Sheila to the rescue," The Editor's Letter, Feb. 24). In fact, Sheila Colpas will bring the race down to hardball politics, shall personal attacks and blood-curdling combined with a paucity of intellectual and honest debate. Let's hope she has a healthy campaign war chest because, at the rate she spent \$100,000 dollars, she will need the resources of the Bank of Canada.

**JOHN G. BOULET, Ottawa**

#### Leaders and followers

Letter writer John Gross is insulting the memory of Winston Churchill by blaming Tony Blair to lose great war ("Leader of the pack," The Mail, Feb. 24). I was a young woman in Britain when war broke out and

I can tell you that Winston Churchill did not lead us into war, but he did lead us to victory. Not to mention Tony Blair. Churchill was a statesman. Tony Blair is filling behind George W. Bush like a puppy.

**ELIZABETH WELLS, Seattle, Wash.**

#### Anti-smoking tour

God bless Barb Tarbox for using what little time she has left in a courageous and demanding lecture tour, pleading with young men never to smoke ("There is no pain greater," Q&A, Feb. 24). And God bless her 10-year-old daughter, Madeline, for her wisdom and selflessness in encouraging her mother to "tell people what this has done to you." The legacy of Barb Tarbox will be one of lives saved—a remarkably heroic accomplishment.

**BOB THOMPSON, Victoria**

#### On the warpath

The debate over whether or not Iraq has weapons of mass destruction and whether or not to give the UN inspectors more time has obscured the more fundamental issues ("Friends and foes," The Iraq Crisis, Feb. 24). Two years of sanctions have failed to dislodge Saddam Hussein, while five per cent of the Iraqi population has perished from malnutrition and disease. From a strictly humanitarian point of view, the sanctions have to be lifted. But first, Saddam must be removed, and the U.S. can make this happen. I am for it, and stop making excuses. The terrorists made of 9/11 have proven that the Middle East is a source of grave danger. The only way to remove that danger is to bring the Middle East into the community of democratic nations. The real work will start after Saddam is removed. In this sense, the United States cannot go it alone. It can, however, start a process that is long overdue and will benefit the entire world—including the peace-loving Franco and Germany, whether they realize it or not.

**MUHAMMAD RAHMAN, Toronto**

Unfortunately, an Israeli tank down us—you cannot fight people who are willing to kill themselves for a cause without destroying your own personal freedom. There is only one obvious solution—remove the conditions that make people wish to die for their cause. The museum lies is not contained on the deck of an aircraft carrier nor in a barrel of oil. A gun. Our Prime Minister—well as



Blair's real work starts after Saddam goes

many European leaders—have been saying this. Why are the Americans not listening?

**JEFF HOLMES, Calgary**

Really, what acceptable Iraqi politician is supposed to replace Saddam and strictly Western goals? Saddam's replacement could be even worse. What then? What do we know that a military offensive by the U.S. would benefit all innocents and the innocent of the U.S. military industrial complex. And we know that the UN is starting innocent Iraq children to death by economic sanctions imposed by the U.S. and Britain—that is, if all the "precision" bombings don't kill these children first.

**FRANK D. SMITH, Jr., Union Brook, N.Y.**

Use the U.S. carrier battle groups in the area as back up for a massive, international peace offensive delivering aid, portable water and hope to Iraqi citizens. An aid approach Baghdad, trust by now, Saddam will become panicked at the increasing probability of a palace revolt. Health repairs change in Iraq, marginalization of terrorists and the avoidance of adverse certain worldwide catastrophe. All for a fraction of the cost of a war.

**DAVID HANSEN, Newmarket, Ont.**

These so-called anti-war protesters are the same who stand with UN observers and watched as over a million Kurds and Shiites slaughtered one another with machetes. However, what a most disturbing to me is

a Canadian in these same people will sleep peacefully tonight only because soldiers in American uniforms stand ready to do violence on their behalf.

**LARRY BARNETT, Surrey, B.C.**

Adrian R. Khan defines jihad, as referred to by a Thai religious teacher, as "a Muslim's duty to defend Islam or if that materializing up arms." ("Preaching jihad in a peaceful land," Thailand, Feb. 24). It is not correct to define jihad as "holy war." The literal meaning of jihad is to struggle, most importantly to struggle against one's inclinations to do evil. There are many different types of jihad. There is an aspect that involves armed conflict (only to be used in self-defense), but that is not the entire focus of jihad and has been improperly used by many for political purposes.

**MUHAMMAD A. JARROU, Thornhill, Ont.**

#### Parade-sitting

Barbara Aronofsky's comment in pointing out the Canadian government's foreign policy of firmness against which has offered very little in moral or military support to the Bush war on terrorism ("Aid to a tank," Column, Feb. 17). Let's pray that in the months to come, after the U.S. has, without our help, ousted Saddam, it will easily pardon its closest neighbours who sat back and watched the deadly fight from the safety of their homes, because they didn't want to get involved.

**PAUL CHISHOLM, Moncton, N.B.**

Canada's position on Iraq is not cowardly, nor is Canada a free rider in NATO, as Barbara Aronofsky would have us believe. Canada's grasp of the process, diplomatic principles and the intent of independent analysis seems to have insured her worth. At first, Sept. 11, there was no reaction of Iraq. Now, suddenly, its leadership is immediate threat and its people are disposable. That Canadians did not rush to conclusions regarding the Iraqi threat gives them a respectful position in the world, and provides a necessary balance to the opportunistic adventures that is evident abroad. It takes courage to stand up to a bully battlefield. Fully in accordance with U.S. thinking, Aronofsky deserves to press the button that launches the first cruise missile into the homes of the poor and disenfranchised.

**STEPHEN SHOM, St. Catharines, Ont.**





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## MACLEAN'S BEHIND THE SCENES



### UNIQUELY CANADIAN

You may not realize it but when you pick up Maclean's, you're looking at a Canadian original. The magazine is set in the first truly custom typeface created for a Canadian magazine.

The face, known as Maclean's Text, recently received the prestigious Certificate of Excellence in Type Design, awarded annually by the Type Directors Club (TDC) in New York City. The international organization is devoted to excellence in typography, both in print and on screen.

"This award is really an achievement for Canadian magazines," says Maclean's art director Denna Traggins, who commissioned renowned Canadian typographer Rod McDonald (above), with friend Bombal to create the face. "The typeface is easy to read, elegant and ideally suited to a news magazine."

McDonald, who worked closely with Traggins to produce the renowned Maclean's last summer, says he started with two existing faces—Garamond, whose roots are French, and Caslon, whose roots are English. As he developed Maclean's Text, it took on influences from other international typefaces, mirroring the country's historical growth.

"Every institution needs to find its own voice and an essential part of Maclean's voice is the type," says McDonald. "In Maclean's Text, I've tried to capture what's modern about the magazine today, as well as what's made it a Canadian institution for almost a century."

The result, he adds, is "what I like to think is the quintessential Canadian face. It's inclusive of many points of view and cultural backgrounds. I can't imagine any story that couldn't be set in it."

Maclean's Text will be featured at the TDC Awards Exhibition in New York this summer and will be included in subsequent exhibitions touring Canada, the U.S., Europe and Japan.

For further information contact [behindthescenes@maclean.ca](mailto:behindthescenes@maclean.ca)

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**Quinn Speaks!** Pakistan for New York: Four years ago, on a quest of the American dream, he had a temporary work visa and landed a job as a financial analyst in Long Island. His wife and four young children soon joined him. They rented an apartment, and his kids earned top marks in a local school. All that changed after the World Trade Center attacks. Sped was laid off. His family moved to Virginia where he took a series of part-time jobs and waited for the green-card visa that would allow him to stay in New York.

informant of Sept. 11, adult males from 24 predominantly Muslim countries and North Korea must register with the government on free deportation. Even those on temporary visas, like Syed, will be sent home the moment their papers expire. "America was a heaven for us," says Syed. "Then came Sept. 11 and the government changed its mind about Muslims." Adding to his frustration, he notes, "Pakistan helped with the war in Afghanistan. I thought we were a friend."

Sped and some  
Tallies, 13 Oct 82,  
and Tallies, 14,  
waiting at a shelter  
in Buffalo, N.Y.

**▲Nanooker Buddi**  
Japanese-Canadian  
train enters Canadian  
Baseball Hall of Fame.  
Honour comes 60 years  
after players shipped  
to internment camp  
following bombing of  
Pearl Harbor. Welcome  
to the show.

**Admiral Rogers:** To end, he made the friendly Giant look like Kurosai, so trustworthy, parents know him as a safe harbour open TF's tempest. So nice, he could have been Canadian. Bye bye, Fred, it's a sad day in the neighbourhood.

**Carolyn Parrish:** Not since Trudeau has a Canadian government so antagonized a U.S. administration. "I hate those bastards," Liberal MP says of the folks next door. Claims she didn't mean it, but her attempt to Parrish the thought-counsellor, well, she's wrong.

**Edmonton**  
The "City of Champions" launches a \$200,000 rebranding exercise after a dismal decade without a major sports victory. Among the slogan-worthy? "Edmonton: It's a Dry Cold."

**W Cold sufferers:** Study finds sniffless colds Affect about 1 in 10 Americans—US\$48 billion a year. Annual cold in Canada—about \$6 billion in doctors' visits, drug store revenues, and lost work—41 nothing to sneeze at.

**"Toughest Harper"**  
Alliance leader says  
"militar military power"  
New Canada has no  
business trying to  
break deal to avert  
Iraq war. Forget about  
Lester Pearson's Peace  
Prize and wonder why  
Harper would want  
to lead such a dismal  
little country.



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**Quote of the week** | "Damn Americans. I hate those bastards."

**Mid Sussex Liberal MP CAROLYN PATERSON** visited the House of Commons. She later welcomed





## WORLD

**HATRED** In a bizarre trial, on a charge that hadn't been successfully pursued in 100 years, British Muslim leader Abdullah el-Faisal was found guilty of soliciting murder—without the identification of a single victim—for inciting his followers to kill Hindus, Jews and Americans. Following the verdict, the judge said he'd been offered a bribe worth \$120,000 to throw the case.

**KOREA** North Korea fired a short-range test missile into the Sea of Japan on the same day that South Korea's new president, Roh Moo-hyun, was sworn into office. In the space of a few days, North Korea threatened to abandon the 1953 armistice, dispatched jet fighters into southern airspace, and restarted a controversial nuclear facility at Yongbyon, which observers believe can create nuclear weapons in a matter of months.

**CASTAWAYS** Six migrant workers from Ghana and Malawi spent two weeks adrift off the Canary Islands, abandoned by smugglers promising them a quick trip to Spain. They survived by gnawing the wood of their boat for moisture; 12 of their com-

panions died. Meanwhile, an African fell to his death from the wheel well of a plane while it was descending over a Penn suburb, another migrant was killed while hiding in the undercarriage of a truck taking the Channel to England.

**WARS** A U.S. Senate committee is having a hard look at the safety of the popular sport utility vehicles as statistics show the rate of fatal rollovers for SUVs is almost three times that for passenger cars.

**AIDS** The first AIDS vaccine to be tested on a large number of humans failed to prevent HIV infection among the 5,000-member test group, maker VaxGen Inc. said. Researchers reported some modest success among a 500-member subset of African Americans and Asians but were unsure if that was a statistical error.

Canada rejected 75 refugees and immigrants last year who tested positive for HIV while 207 others with the disease, who had family sponsors and who were felt not to be an undue burden on the health-care system, were allowed in.

**FERTILITY** Trichloroethylene, a solvent used to strip grease in garages and in a household

paint and spot remover, is contributing to male infertility, a team of Canadian and U.S. researchers said.

The UN predicts the world population will be 8.9 billion in 2050, down 400 million from previous estimates, because families are having fewer children and because AIDS has become "a disease of mass destruction."

**SPACE** Pioneer 10, the first spacecraft to carry a message to aliens, has run out of transmitting power after 31 years aloft. The plucky little vehicle is now coasting on the momentum of long-dead rockets toward the constellation Taurus, where it should arrive in about two million years.

## CANADA

**AIR INDEA** With the trial now scheduled to be heard by a judge alone, prosecutors released a mountain of pretrial evidence in the case of the two men accused of blowing up Air India Flight 182 in 1985, Canada's worst mass murder. The early evidence indicated that the prosecution's case was based in part on a key witness with a criminal record who received \$100,000 from the RCMP and was demanding Canadian citizenship

## WINTER'S BALM

A two-day snowstorm succeeded where international pressure has not: It brought a fire alarm to the Middle East. Jews and Muslims were about their business in a soggy cease-fire. But Israeli politics heated up. Prime Minister Ariel Sharon forged a coalition with the hawkish right, promoters of settlements in Palestinian territories. In a surprise move, he cut the legs out from under Israel's Foreign Minister Netanyahu, replacing him as foreign minister with loyalist Silvan Shalom.

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## THE WEEK



**WOUNDED BIRD** Just two days after the boats battle played, Canada's biggest coast-guard destroyer HMCS Iroquois was forced back to its Halifax base after a 40-year-old Sea King helicopter crashed on the foredeck. Two crew members were slightly injured in the mishap, the 23rd major accident involving the damage-prone choppers in the last decade. The Iroquois was headed for the Persian Gulf to be the command vessel for an international naval contingent.

In his testimony, it is also alleged that one of the accused was overlooked to say the bomb was supposed to go off at London's Heathrow airport, not while the plane was in the air over the Atlantic with 329 people aboard.

**POLICE** Is a move of cities say could slow police priorities, Montreal gave a reward of \$1 million to its police force of \$3 million—the city's share of provincial money that was confiscated from organized crime.

**POLITICS** A sudden surge in Parti Québécois popularity, especially among francophone voters, has added to Premier Bernard Landry's talking about a Quebec election in early April.

**BY PASCAL ELI**



**THE QUEBEC CHOICE**



Force Stan to the four Canadian soldiers killed by an American bomb in a friendly-fire incident in Afghanistan a year ago. At least one family member has rejected the medal as inappropriate, while a military lawyer is still weighing the fate of the two jokes involved.

**JUSTICE** The lawyers' group that calls itself the Association in Defense of the Wrongly Convicted has quietly abandoned the case of Roger Warren, the former mayor convicted of writing a bomb that killed nine people at Yellowknife's Glenora Mine in 1992.

## BUSINESS

**CARS** Ontario offered its auto industry an unexpected \$625 million in job-training and infrastructure incentives in the hope of luring a new car plant.

**INDICATORS** The annual inflation rate shot up to 4.5 per cent in January, largely on the heels of big energy price increases. Canadian corporate profits also rushed upward, while U.S. consumer confidence fell to its lowest level in a decade.

**COMMERCE** The RCMP charged tobacco giant JTI MacDonald Corp. and eight former executives with defrauding the governments of Canada, Ontario and Quebec of \$1.2 billion in tax revenue in the early 1990s by supplying the black market with domestic brands manufactured here and in Puerto Rico.

## Noted | Rogue Voices

With nearly 200,000 U.S. troops on his borders, Iraq's Saddam Hussein was an American TV to say he would never go into exile, and to challenge George Bush to a public debate. Meanwhile, other "pariah nations" made their case at the summit of the non-aligned in Kuala Lumpur. Some of what was said:

"The United States, awakened to the implications of being the sole superpower, joined by Britain as a long-ago colonial, have turned themselves into fence-hunting bull dogs, trying to go, as they say, for more Third World blood," Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe.

"That is what we see, dark corners of the world that is the persecution some base of Third World nations. Never before has anyone shown such concern." Cuban president Fidel Castro on George Bush's rhetoric.



## Mansbridge on the Record



## THE 'SHOCK AND AWE'

The Pentagon is telling people how it will attack Iraq. Should we believe it?

**THE WAY** Shakespeare told it, Julius Caesar, at the height of his popularity, turned to wood-sawyer for advice: "Beware the Ides of March," came the immediate response. Unfortunately for Caesar, he went to the Senate anyway.

Which leaves us wondering whether anyone is subverting a mid-March warning to Saddam Hussein, or far that matter, to George W. Bush? After a blizzard that's been going on for months, it seems as though we're arriving at crunch time—maybe last-minute, surprise sentences, or some like it. It seems conflict.

It's true, the United States has no desire to repeat what the hells on Iraq still call the "son of the father"—George H. Bush's decision to let Saddam Hussein remain in power after Kuwait had been liberated. This time, the Iraqi leader is to be history for him, then, to be no way out. But if things don't happen the way Washington expects, either during the war or after, the current Bush may have his own problems. His popular support is almost entirely based on his strength during a crisis, like this one, and away, and he may look again the way he did before Sept. 11—as president on the ropes in a country divided by a bitter election.

So the success of the battle plan is all important. Which makes it surprising—if not surprising—that we've been reading about it in newspapers and newsmagazines, watching someone played out on a national radio news news, and downloading troop deployment figures from war-related Web sites for weeks. If you believe these reports, the plan called "Shock and Awe" (the first 48 hours will see a massive air campaign in which 3,000 so-called smart bombs that apparently means only 15 to 20 per acre mean that target) will drop on key Iraqi installations. That's considerably more than the number of similar weapons dropped the last time. Coalition land forces (read U.S. and British troops) there will face south from

Tartary and north from Kuwait straight for Baghdad. The overwhelming force of the attack (the plan has been consistently leaked from the Pentagon) will result, aside from ground damage, in rapidly demoralizing morale among Iraqi troops and their leaders, followed by a quick end to the war.

Nothing like laying all your military secrets on the table. How things have changed. I guess Dwight D. Eisenhower wanted a lot of time and resources pretending the D-Day landings were going to be in Calais—he should have put out everybody from the get-go that they were going to Normandy. German morale would have been broken then and there—and it would have been a walk to Paris and then to Berlin a few weeks later. Not everyone buys into the "Shock and Awe" scenario. Some are convinced it's all spin, designed to confuse and scare the Iraqis. They call it the modern day Calais. They think instead that this will be a "special forces" war with commandos slipping into Baghdad in the first 48 hours (if they're not there already) to grab key members of the Iraqi leadership, without the need for all those "troops" (and, one assumes, some "no to enter" bombs that could cost thousands of civilian lives. After all, the argument goes, if Saddam Hussein has the weapons the U.S. says he has, wouldn't he use them if given the chance? So don't you have to grab him before any bombing forces him to realize?

Who knows? Almost certainly not the media, many journalists complain, war after war, that they've been manipulated in the run-up—but find themselves falling for all the strategically placed pre-war leaks when the next wave of fighting begins.

So where is that another? And what would be the way about these upcoming Ides of March—and to whom would be the way?

Peter Mansbridge is Chief Correspondent of CBC Television News and Anchor of the National TV Comment. Write to him at [letusa@radiomail.ca](mailto:letusa@radiomail.ca)

## Passages

**DETO.** In 1962, Fred Rogers, an ordained Presbyterian minister from Latrobe, Pa., created a children's program for the CBC called *Misterogers* (Kerrie Conradi, also known as Mr. Dressup, worked in a puppeteer on the show). Four years later, after returning to the U.S., Rogers starred in *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, writing his own songs and doing most of the puppetry himself. Rogers, 74, died at his home in Pittsburgh, after struggling with cancer.



**WOW.** Architect Daniel Libeskind was picked from two finalists to rebuild the World Trade Center site. Berlin-based Libeskind, 56—currently the Frank Gehry chair at the University of Toronto and the architect for the Royal Ontario Museum expansion—plans glassy geometric buildings, complete with hanging gardens and a seasonal area.

**SENTENCED.** Former Serbian Serb president Slobodan Milosevic, also known as the "Tooth Lady," was sentenced to 11 years in jail for one count of genocide against humanity. Milosevic, 72, pleaded guilty to—and expressed remorse about—the ethnic cleansing campaign that occurred during the 1992-1995 war.

**VICTORIES.** After a difficult 2002, Bright's Grove, Ont., golfer Mike Weir won for the second time this season, at the Nissan Open in Los Angeles. In Kitchener, Ont., skip Colleen Jones led her 7-fellow rink to a fourth Canadian women's curling championship.

**DETO.** Rick Scopyk joined Winnipeg's fire department in 1974, eventually becoming a captain. Diagnosed with brain cancer 13 months ago, he became the first person in Manitoba to be covered under the province's firefighters' cancer legislation. Scopyk, 58, died at home in Winnipeg.

**COLLAPSED.** A bid by former Ottawa Senators majority owner Rod Bryden to buy the team back—after putting it into bankruptcy by proposition—fell through when his key American investor withdrew because of accounting issues. Bryden said he won't be in the next round.

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## Ethics | Trusting Paul Martin

Conflict of interest—that pesky, in-the-eye-of-the-beholder concept—has again reared another Liberal, this time leadership front-runner Paul Martin. Following news that his mind-trust arrangement involving Canada Steamship Lines was “a venetian blind trust” that allowed him to peek in on significant events affecting his holdings—Martin is facing calls to choose between the empire he built and his ambitions to run the country. So far, he’s getting the benefit of the doubt from at least some quarters. Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, who holds no brief for the man who forced him to eat a retirement dish, has staunchly defended Martin. Ethics counsellor Howard Wilson also agrees that the former finance minister broke no government guidelines.

But Martin reined last week he has a problem. He spent repeated Opposition demands to tell his compadres, arguing it would send a wrong signal to individuals who had proven themselves in the business

world that they would be scapegoats in high office. Instead, he promised to absolve himself from government decisions that could be construed as affecting his business interests. He also pledged that as ethics commissioner, once legislation creates the new office, would be asked to advise as an

### PAUL MARTIN'S MAIN ASSETS AS OF FEB. 14, 2002

**PASSAGE HOLDINGS INC.**, a holding company, 46.35% of its value controlled by Martin, independently managed, which, in turn, owns:

- **CANADA STEAMSHIP LINES INC.** (100%)
- **CSL INTERNATIONAL INC.** (100%)

Together they control 48 ships that carry 37 million tonnes of bulk cargo annually around the world.

Other assets include shares in office buildings, two movie theatres, property in Alberta, Ontario, Colorado and Arizona, and a portion of two shipyards in St. Catharines and Thunder Bay, Ont.

SOURCE: OFFICE OF THE ETHICS COMMISSIONER/CSL GROUP INC.

The Opposition says Martin must choose: save his companies or run the country

other cabinet member to assume his prime ministerial responsibilities during the “rare” occasions when conflicts arise.

But how rare would they be? Canadian Alliance Leader Stephen Harper suggested Martin would find himself in conflict on a wide array of government decisions. His shipping group is a private company that does business all over the world and publishes extensively little about itself. “It has business which involve the activities of virtually every government department—transport, industry, revenue, environment, fisheries, natural resources, trade, foreign affairs and, of course, finance,” Harper pointed out. “Any current or potential prime minister with such holdings is exposed to continual conflicts.” Will Martin stick to his ship? He bought CSL from Paul Desmarais’ Power Corp. in 1961 and is currently president of his baby. But the issue is unlikely to go away, and Martin’s supposedly smooth exit to 24 Sussex Drive could be raking on water.

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Cover

# WAR: WHAT IS IT GOOD FOR?

Nothing, according to the British. And sometimes, JONATHAN GATEHOUSE reports, the debate isn't even civil.



The signs are everywhere. Nations are opposed to Blair's foreign policy, and aren't buying the PM's argument that there is a 'real' case for war. You're like he's been taken over by aliens," one said.

**OUTSIDE WESTMINSTER**, beneath the building squat of Churchill's bronze effigy, the mass of peace and the voice for war are coming perilously close to blows. Their side with argument about Saddam Hussein has passed the police stage, moved into rallying, and now fingers are jabbing into puff-out chests. "Sometimes you have to wage a small war to prevent a great calamity," says Samuel Chay. A visitor to London, he's already whipped out his American passport (now the country of birth—Iraq—"He's a good man. My family knows him hard."

"They're going to kill so many innocent women and children," Brian How barks back. On day 635 of his peace vigil on the lawn across from Parliament, the protest goes on his men but are flocked with rant. He walks in his display of banners and placards and returns with a collection of photos of deformed Iraqi children. Victims, he says, of the degraded American munitions used in the last Gulf conflict. "We crashed their country. We razed hospitals and schools."

"It's going to be clean this time, the weapons are better," says Chay. "When it's over, the Iraqi people will have democracy."

"That's rich." An American talking about

democracy. You know what I say? 'Nak go home! Bloody murderers!'

Chay throws his hands up in disgust and starts to move on. "Don't worry. When the time comes, we'll save you again."

George W. Bush and his administration say. The "new" Europe appears to have more in common with the old one than they would like to believe. British public opinion is swinging fairly against a war with Iraq. And the debate going on in the U.K.'s Parliament is no more civil than the one taking place in the country's streets.

Two weeks after the biggest demonstration in British history—as many as two million people filled Hyde Park and the streets of central London in support of peace—Tory Blair is in an increasingly perilous position. His own party has begun to balk at the idea of joining the United States in a "coalition of the willing" to disarm Saddam, with or without UN approval. Last Wednesday in an unprecedented rebellion that may have dire implications for his leadership, 122 Labour MPs—close to a third of his own—voted against Blair's Iraq policy. With the government now having to reassure to stage at least one more parliamentary vote







opposition in Parliament. Like the Liberals in Canada, Labour holds a massive majority and finds itself facing parties that seem more interested in stabbing each other in the back than doling a blow to the government. In a period where Conservative Leader Iain Duncan-Smith could be making big rounds at the polls, he has ignored the advice of some senior Tories and come out in favour of the war. He is now quelling his own backbench revolt, orchestrated by Michael Portillo, an impressively crafted failed candidate for the leadership.

But even in the absence of a united opposition, Rodney Barker, professor of government at the London School of Economics, believes Blair's future is in serious doubt. Britain's foreign-policy turn into the embrace of the world's only superpower two years ago has ended up more as military marriage than the economic collaboration that was envisioned. Backtracking and letting the U.S. go alone in George Bush's hour of need is not a viable political option, but neither is Blair's current path of defying much of his party and engaging the public.

The large number of Labour MPs who broke ranks in last week's vote, despite arm-twisting and threats of discipline from party whips, looks ominous. "A prime minister is only prime minister so long as he can manage the House of Commons," says Barker. Several of Blair's predecessors have taken smaller revolts in cue to oust.

Although the prime minister has the power to consent to the fact war America is pushing for, without seeking House of Commons approval, it would raise the political stakes even higher. At its stands, says Barker, the PM could only alienate his critics with a quick battlefield victory, few casualties, and a smooth transition to democracy in Iraq. "If it were a better man, I wouldn't be putting money on Blair," he says.

**THE MOSQUE** at the Muslim Welfare House in London's gritty Finsbury Park neighbourhood will never be described in baroque. Congregants worship in a plain beige room, under exposed metal beams and a gritty skylight. Black mould spots the ceiling and walls. Outside in the wintry winter sunshine, devoted men pass every couple of minutes, rumbling over the prayer of the faithful. At Friday's main service, Mohammed



Some are outraged that Blair appears unmoved by protests against his policies

Sawalha's sermon stresses co-operation, tolerance, and tolerance. Taking another person's life is haram—evil. Anyone who supports war against Iraq is therefore damned by sin. "We can do a lot of things—talk to our MPs, send letters, join protests and rallies," he encourages. "The war will not start."

Almost nine per cent of London's population are Muslim—some 600,000 people. All told, there are 1.5 million followers of Islam in the country. Sawalha, also the president of the Muslim Association of Britain, says their voices rarely get heard in the debate over the ongoing conflict because as a group, they have the most to lose. "A war will damage the relationship between Muslims and the society," says Sawalha, a Palestinian immigrant who has been in the U.K. for four years. "It may help groups who are using violence. Some Muslims will see the death and destruction and say that we have to do something against Western society."

Security is tight at the mosque and wor-

shippers are not allowed to find a reporter under duress, even if he's been invited. The community is sensitive to the way it has been portrayed in the British media. Just down the street is another mosque, led by the infamous Abu Hamza al-Musli, a radical Muslim cleric and admirer of Osama bin Laden. Its doors have been locked and police posted outside since a Jan. 20 raid in which British authorities arrested seven suspected terrorists. Sawalha, who denounces a dagger riot and, rarely gets as much play in the papers as the radical Abu Hamza, with his metal band hook and cloudy eyes—some victims of battles in Afghanistan against the Soviets. "When I speak about how Muslims should co-operate in this society, nobody from the press comes," he says. "But if one person says, 'go out and kill everybody,' they all put it on the front page."

After sunrise, at the Café Sakana, seven sip coffee at an outdoor table. Their opposition to the war stems more from politics than religion, and is fuelled by ignorance and anger toward Western powers that they think warn the world as their playground. "If an



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- ☐ Martyr

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Bulluck can't think of anyone she knows who supports the idea of war with Iraq.

economist: power comes to your country, betrays everyone, betrays everyone, takes your resources, creates all these problems, how would you feel?" asks Abdullah Ali, a Somali immigrant. "We are not against America, but we are against Bush's oil policy. Everything he is doing is for oil."

As in the case in Cairo, Kuwait City and Amman, there is refusal to accept theories that Muslims could have been responsible for Sept. 11—the CIA, MIS, Mossad are all more likely suspects, they agree. "The whole point is to discredit Muslims," says one of the men, Abdi Mahammed. "After the Cold War, the U.S. decided to create a new enemy to divert everybody's attention. That's why Islam is suddenly a threat."

**TUNDRIDGE WELLS** shortly about an hour by train from Finsbury Park, but seems a world away. The prosperous Kent county village, famed as a spa town since Georgian times, has a picturesque high street lined with men's book shops and antique dealers. Lord Rivers and BMWs crowd the streets. It's Tory to the core; the town's name is almost synonymous with hampshire letters to the editor about society going to hell in a handcart in the morning papers. If that support that Blair and cabinet colleagues are counting on is to be found anywhere in Britain, this place would be an odd-on favourite. Yet support for war with Iraq is no more evident here than in the roughest or trendiest parts of London.

Joan Gowing, a retired secretary with an unimposing house that bespeaks her loneliness for past prime ministers, is uncompromising in her assessment of Blair. "I thought he'd be useless as a politician and he is," she

says. Labour's Iraq policy in all thought-out. "I'd like to see further debate and more inspections. I don't understand the rush. It's as if Blair has this massive ego and needs to be on the world stage." In a nearby park, Johnny Gancella takes his dog, Lucy, for a noon-hour constitutional. His highly polished shoes and regimental tie give away his past. Gancella, who is 82 but looks a decade younger, spent five years as a rifleman in the Second World War. He fought at El Alamein, and other bloody battlefields in North Africa. His grandson is now a member of the Grenadier regiment and is in Kuwait. Despite his pedigree, Gancella is not convinced that now is the time for battle. "I think that you go to war for necessary reasons, not moral ones," he says. "And it's not right to spend billions of pounds in the battlefield when our hospitals are in such a poor state." Further down the road, local secretary Carol Bulluck can't hear a word on a bench. She can't think of anyone who supports war with Iraq. "I just really don't think we need to get involved," she says. "It's really not our fight." A Conservative voter, she even feels a bit sorry for the predicament that Blair finds himself in. "He's in a situation with the U.S. where he has to go forward and play the good guy. He can't get out of it, really."

Off the high street, an elderly couple wait at a bus stop. He wears a tweed cap and bright winter clothes. She is every bit the country gentleman in sweater, sensible shoes and walking boots. Finally, after more than a week of searching, and dozens of interviews around the country, here are people who believe Blair is on the right track. "Saddam should have been finished off 10 years ago," says the man. "If that's what we have to do to combat evil, then that's what we have to do," adds the wife. The million or more who marched in London are there, right, she says. "They can't seem to see beyond the immediate going."

Opinions are free, but when it comes to giving names, they balk. They aren't in the RAF, attached to NATO. Right now, he's at the Pentagon, planning "He'd go blurry if he knew I was talking to you," says the man. The silent majority, if it exists, is keeping awfully quiet. America better be ready for a shock to its system. The evidence on the street in Britain suggests Bush's "coalition of the willing" might not hold for long. ■

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# IGNORING THE LESSONS OF THE PAST?

Skeptics of an attack on Iraq include British and U.S. veterans of the first Gulf War, writes ARTHUR KENT

TO GEORGE W. BUSH and Tony Blair, it must have seemed like a promising rhetorical device. So, this past week, they shifted gears, claiming that their thirst for speed in securing a military solution to Iraq is morally correct, since it would deliver the Iraqi people from their tyrannical dictator. Also, they both implied, was really in the best interests of freedom-loving Iraqis. Critics pointed out that Churchillian, Bush and Blair's logic falls flat, they claimed, tripped up by truth: "The argument is simply nonsensical," says Iqbal Sacranie, secretary general of the Muslim Council of Britain, the country's largest Muslim organization and one of its most moderate. "The sanctions maintained by our governments are responsible for much of the Iraqi people's suffering, and this war is going to bring about more death and destruction. Where's the morality in that?"

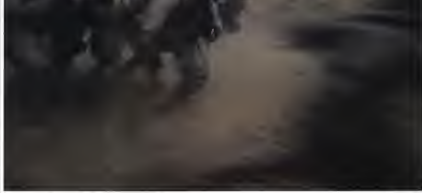
Sacranie's group supports the dismantlement of Saddam Hussein's regime by peaceful means. UN weapons inspectors must be given more time. This sharply worded letter to Downing Street in January, Sacranie cautioned Blair that war in Iraq would cause "bitterness and conflict for generations to come" and "lasting damage" to relations between the Muslim world and the West. Attacks within Britain have already hardened against the western cause: seven out of 10 British Muslims, according to a recent poll, believe the Bush administration's war against terror is, in fact, a war on Islam.

Last week's hammer vote in the House of Commons hammered home to the Blair government that such anxiousness about lines of culture, religion—and political allegiance. The Labour rebels' message was twofold: that the case for war has not yet been made, and that British policy must not be

dictated by the U.S.-friendly. And while the President may not have felt the earth move, no one on this side of the Atlantic could miss noting that the vote has opened a chasm between the two leading proponents of military action. While Washington might prefer a second UN resolution authorizing the use of force, London now crucially needs one. And not just to protect Blair's group, as power—thrown into question for the first time since Labour swept Westminster in 1997—for British troops in the Gulf.

Retired Maj.-Gen. Patrick Cordingley, who in the 1991 Gulf War commanded Britain's 7th Armoured Brigade—the descendants of Montgomery's fabled Desert Rats—told *MailOnline*: "I think there is a genuine British problem if we went alone with the Americans now, and the lack out there on the ground knew that the British public weren't behind them." Cordingley has made headlines in Britain for making the soldier's case against rash and gratuitous use of force in such a sensitive region. "I actually think that containment has worked," he says. "If you can contain the Soviet Union for 50 years, then you can contain Iraq for 100 years. From a soldier's point of view, it is the use of power to resolve this sort of problem the best way to proceed? You've not defeated your nation—this is a bigger argument about gaining stability in the Middle East. But the way you may have to get that is to use overwhelming force. You may have to ask your forces to kill a lot of people."

Like all responsible commanders, Cordingley is mindful of encountering the unexpected. However effective the Pentagon's war plan might appear now, things can go terribly wrong. "If there's a prolonged air campaign, if it turns into a quick tactical bombardment," he says, "firstly, you can run the



targets, as happened in Desert Fox in 1998 [the last large-scale bombing of Iraq]. If the bombing continues, we can be reasonably certain that a lot of babies and women will be killed, because Saddam will make mistakes like this. Then you have a major issue with the transnational community."

The consequences of a bloodbath grey on the minds not just of veterans like Cordingley, but of commanders taking the field right now. Especially U.S. commanders, however lush and redneck the language from political masters like Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld might seem. Men like

U.S. troops train in Kuwait for a conflict in which they hope to avoid previous mistakes.

Colin Powell know that huge life-and-death mistakes can be made—because he's made them, in the Gulf. Prior to launching the ground war phase of Desert Storm in February 1991, Powell, then head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said of Saddam's Republican Guard: "Our strategy to go after this army is very, very simple. First we're going to cut it off, and then we're going to kill it." Yet the CIA later estimated that 70 per cent of Republican Guard troops and half their

tank and other armor escaped Kuwait, enabling the dictator to crush internal rebellions. Tens of thousands of Iraqis were slaughtered, mainly southern Shiites and Kurds in the north, who had heeded George Bush Sr.'s call to arrest Saddam.

What went wrong? Three things, military analysts agree. Bush Sr.'s decision to call a ceasefire after just 100 hours of ground combat, Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf's failure to seal the Iraqi's escape routes out of northern Kuwait, and old-fashioned confusion in the U.S. chain of command. Put simply, the Powell doctrine of overwhelming force

had not been matched by disciplined, decisive political leadership. The U.S. had fumbled the football on the goal line.

"When Norm Schwarzkopf went to meet with the other side, he had very little direction from anybody, whether from the President's advisers or the State Department, as to what he was supposed to do," so states Gen. Calvin Waller, who was Schwarzkopf's deputy during the 1991 conflict. In an interview released in January by The History Channel in the U.S., both Waller and Lt. Gen. Buster Glosser, who planned the air campaign in Desert Storm, revealed the coordi-





and consequences—of the lack of information that plagued the ceasefire process. Glossop pointed to Schwarzkopf's consent to a request made by defamed Iraqi generals at the Safwan truce conference to keep their helicopters. As a result, Saddam's gunships and transports were free to fly in post-war Iraq. "Everybody says well, that's 20/20 hindsight," Glossop countered. "Well, permitting the helicopters is not 20/20 hindsight to an extent. Had I been sitting at Safwan, I would never have agreed to that."

On a larger scale, history has judged the aftermath of Desert Storm in even harsher terms. U.S. politicians and generals, in their

"The Americans are hated," says one Gulf veteran, "and the Arabs are not far behind."

wish to exit the region, stumbled into their—and our—worst nightmare, leaving Iraq a smoldering, bloody, open-ended conflict. Could a U.S. commander-in-chief and his armies again storm in, claim victory, then foul up? A look at Afghanistan, a year after Gen. Tommy Franks's routing of the Taliban, offers grim evidence to the current administration's lack of staying power.

Only this week, President Barack Obama, appearing before the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, warned that

the country for a possible war. Turkey would involve nearly \$50 billion in U.S. aid and deployment costs. The country's parliament must still vote on the plan.

■ U.S. military planners engaged in a public squabble about how many troops might be necessary to maintain order in a post-war Iraq. Gen. Eric Shinsekido, army chief of staff, set the number at several hundred thousand soldiers. But earlier Pentagon estimates have been closer to 180,000.

■ George W. Bush said that toppling Saddam Hussein would stabilize the Middle East and help bring about a lasting peace. Palestinian peace and a "truth" documentary. Palestinian state. Both Israeli and Palestinian leaders reacted skeptically.

■ In a heart-to-heart with soldiers, four U.S. soldiers were killed during a training mission in Kuwait when their helicopter crashed during a sandstorm.

Afghanistan could again become a haven for terrorists should the U.S. abandon the cause of improving security. The UN's undersecretary general for peacekeeping echoed that, calling for assistance to the crippled nation. Jean-Marie Guehenno told the Security Council that "the national army needs to be built, factual arms need to be dissolved, and assistance needs to be provided to help co-ordinators reintegrate into civilian life."

Care International is one of many respected aid agencies that have called for the international peacekeeping force to expand operations beyond Kabul. The International Narcotics Control Board, too, says that real peace cannot be achieved unless the rampant crisis of illegal drugs is addressed (Afghanistan registered, last year, its ranking as the world's top opium producer). The INCB, Care, Komen and the UN—they constitute a united front, but a disingenuous one. Washington shows no sign of responding to the cries for help, whether to stem the rampant lawlessness plaguing the countryside, or to decisively counter the regrouping of fugitive al-Qaeda and Taliban forces.

Consequently, reconstruction has stalled and much of Afghanistan is wracked by misery. The World Health Organization notes that the maternal mortality rate remains one of the highest in the world: in some provinces, up to seven per cent of mothers die in childbirth. Fifteen of every 100 children are likely to die before the age of five. As with his inability to confront and disarm unruly regional warlords, Karzai is virtually powerless: 70 per cent of what little health care is available is provided by foreign aid agencies, not by his own administration.

U.S. trainers continue to kill civilians. According to the U.S. agency Human Rights Watch, U.S. warplanes dropped 1,228 cluster bombs, containing a total of a quarter-million sub-munitions or bomblets, flawed by five per cent, or 1,100 bomblets, failed to explode on impact. Since then, accidental detonations have killed or wounded at least 127 people—69 per cent of them civilians.

When Iraq would almost certainly bring much more carnage, at least 60 times as many cluster bombs and rockets were fired by U.S. forces in the 1991 Gulf War as in the Afghan campaign. Would 50 times the bombardment in Iraq produce 50 times as many civilian dead as in Afghanistan? No one knows. But the decision by the White



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House, this past week, to go public with its plans for humanitarian assistance to Iraq was clearly a response to worldwide fears of the human crisis of a desert blitzkrieg.

Strangely, and shamefully, in the view of one aid specialist, the White House is talking in tens, not hundreds of millions of dollars, for post-war Iraqi reconstruction. A version of UN and non-governmental aid services in Afghanistan, he says that "\$70 or \$80 million will be a drop in the desert sand. That money would be burned up just rebuilding bridges over the Tigris and Euphrates. What the White House isn't telling anyone is how much it'll cost to feed and heal 24 million Iraqi civilians after the infrastructure goes up in smoke. It'll be the Mao shell plan, Take Two Billion\$/can dollars—and we'll be at it for years, not months."

Heedily warning that some old soldiers are the trail of destruction of a U.S.-led Iraq germs to something better avoided, Former Desert Rain commander Cordingley, however, is assigned both to the war and to ominous aftermath. "Having lived there [the Middle East] for five years," he says, "I can tell you the Americans are hated, and the Brits are not far behind. This war can only aggravate the problem. Still, talking to my Arab friends, they say that since it's inevitable—the Americans have made their mind up—it's probably better to get on with it than draw the whole thing out and make it more complicated for everybody. I hear, like them, that it won't be inevitable."

Not to fast, says Saccoccia—and at least one quarter of Tony Blair's Labour caucus. "What the international community decided is that inspectors should go in and search Iraq," he says. "The inspectors have made it very clear they need more time. Let the will of the international community prevail. What is at all the end? If going more time, even a year, will result in peaceful disarmament, this is what we should do."

All of this and a tidal of Iraqi deaths will lay you a cup of coffee in Washington. Much sooner than a year from now then it'll be only one fit topic for debate in the U.S. capital: the 2004 decision. The argument driving George W. Bush's campaign machine won't want to compete with the noise of jet exhaust, tanks and bombs going off on TV. The time for war, they contend, is now. The time for containment is gone.

Prize peace, and everything too unwieldy for the U.S. political process. **BT**

## CANADA'S VOICE ON AMERICA'S WAR

Graham supports the U.S. battle against terrorism, but only if the rest of the world helps set the rules

**AS THE U.S.** and Britain move closer to war with Iraq, Canada continues to work behind the scenes to heal deep divisions within the UN over what to do about Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein. Under an initiative still being pushed by Ottawa last week, Saddam would face a March 28 deadline to disarm or face possible military action to remove him from power. The U.S. and Britain have both turned down the plan, but Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham says a broader consensus is needed if the UN is to hold its divine up. In an interview with *Maclean's* World Editor Tom Fennell, Graham discussed the growing UN impasse, Canada's military role in the region and what he thinks the U.S. can bring to democracy to the Middle East by installing a new government in Baghdad.

**Canada's proposal of a March 28 deadline appears to be reasonable—it would give weapons inspectors more time while not leaving Saddam in power indefinitely. Why were the Americans so quick to dismiss it?**  
If Colin Powell asked me I would say to him, "Look, you want the world community speaking to Saddam Hussein, and clearly indicating these are consequences." So I don't understand why the U.S. would not be willing to consider it on that light.

**Is the proposal dead?**

It's alive as a series of ideas that were put forward by us. The Mexicans, who have a seat on the Security Council, have indicated directly and publicly they could use the plan to try to bring the parties together at the Security Council can come out of this united

**Bush has said that toppling Saddam could help spread democracy from Morocco to**

**Rubens. What are your views on that?**

It's a remarkably attractive vision for the world. But it can't be the U.S. out there by itself seeking to achieve this. It has to be done in a way that allows the multilateral community to work on it together. Which reinforces our belief that the UN and the Security Council remain key to achieving American foreign policy objectives.

**What impact would a democratic Iraq have on the region?**

Iraq makes it hard for other states to become more democratic because it's in a state of self-defence all the time. So a democratic Iraq will de-escalate tensions in the region and allow other states to develop more democratic institutions. It will also be a model to others to show how democracy works.

**What can you say about efforts behind the scenes to convince Saddam to leave?**

I know from having talked to various Arab foreign ministers that many would be happy to see him go. But I don't think they were ever able to get unanimity among the Arab League itself to officially endorse that. It's a very delicate proposition.

**Where does Canada fit into the U.S. view of the post-Sept. 11 world?**

When the U.S. speaks of human rights and of helping breathe democracy into places where dictators reign, Canada supports that. Where we differ is the way in which we go about doing it. Canada is cognizant of the role of multilateral institutions because that's the way in which you can bring in other voices. So we're with the U.S. program, but we have our own views about how best to achieve it.



**Old Canada critic a deal with the U.S. to send almost 1,500 troops to Afghanistan in what could become a combat role?**

It wasn't a deal or anything like that. U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld raised the problem earlier and there's no question that Canada's decision to step in to fill that military gap is an important contribution to both the Americans, who wish to see a more stable Afghanistan, and the Europeans. I think we're playing a very good role in the country, because we're satisfying an important peacekeeping mission and we're doing something that we're uniquely qualified to do.

**There are reports of the Taliban and al-Qaeda regrouping in Afghanistan. Canada could end up building these groups as the Americans pacify Iraq.**

That's not a mission without risk. Some voices have said, "Oh, we're going to Afghanistan and not to Iraq." I think that's dangerous and that's why the Canadian proposal on Iraq is to also be the preservation of the council as an important institution of global governance.

**which the skills of our soldiers will be called upon in many ways. Not just in being co-ordinating people who don't shy away from a fight; they also can step in and work with local people. But if we allow Afghanistan to fall back, we'll be running the risk of exactly what happened before when the Taliban ran it.**

**British Prime Minister Tony Blair stated bluntly that the U.S. and Britain will deal with North Korea after Saddam is removed. How realistic is that?**

Gives in outside capacity and potential war capacity, Korea is a threat to peace and stability. There is some suggestion that the North Korea issue will come to the Security Council. Whether it would choose to go the route of sanctions remains to be seen. The Korean issue does demonstrate the need to preserve the integrity of the Security Council and that's why the Canadian proposal on Iraq is to also be the preservation of the council as an important institution of global governance.

**Liberal MP Carolyn Parrish called American "baptists." How deep are anti-American feelings running in the government?**

The Liberal party represents Canadians quite properly well. Most of us subscribe to the view that the U.S. is our best friend, but there are times when we take different approaches to problems. This is the single voice of one MP. Most disagreed with what she said, and I haven't met a member of the Liberal party who thought she made sense.

**Canada is boosting military spending by \$800 million a year. Many analysts say that's not nearly enough if we intend to play a meaningful role internationally.**

The increased funding is a recognition of the fact that we need to rebuild our military. Twenty years in a world where terrorism is your enemy isn't part your armed services. A new battle ship, at hundreds of millions of dollars, is not going to solve the terrorist problem. Our policy also addresses terrorism, in a sense that it reduces poverty where terrorism is bred by desperation and despair. **BT**



# THE 'STRANGE WAYS' OF JOSCHKA FISCHER

The protestor-turned-politician is a driving force behind Germany's contentious foreign policy

**JOSCHKA FISCHER** has inherited the spindly Berlin office once occupied by Einar Weizsäcker, the socialist Communist party boss who long ruled East Germany from the Nan-on Reichsbank building. The new tenant has turned the once-white, glossy room into a postmodern workstation where he exhibits his collection of what he calls, but only in private, "diplomatic knickknacks"—the variety of gifts he receives as German foreign minister. The exhibit is counterbalanced by a culturally correct Andy Warhol painting (his hands above his desk). And that, it seems, is the limit of American influence in the foreign ministry these days.

With Berlin and Paris on one side of a divided western coalition, Fischer is the independent-minded yet maverick man driving Germany's contentious foreign policy. A self-described pacifist who has nonetheless given the green light to German participation in Afghanistan and Kosovo, he chaired the Security Council meeting at which UN weapons inspectors gave their latest update on Iraq in February. And he is set to play a decisive role in shaping the European Union of September, helping determine whether Brussels will sue-or challenge—the U.S. line.

At 34, Fischer cuts a dashing figure with his white hair and dispassionate. Undoubtedly, Joschka, as friends and foes call the man: short and wide-chested, a wall-buster. A near 80-per-cent popularity rating sets him apart from other German politicians—he is miles ahead of Chancellor Gerhard Schröder. Fischer, a Green party executive board member, in fact, saved the day for the ruling Red-Green coalition by leading his party to more than 90 per cent of the vote in the October elections. Not bad for the son of an archaic German butcher from Hattgen who quit Revolutionary Communist, an extreme left faction,

to join the not-yet-mainstream Greens in 1977. A former symbolist dissent, Fischer is now an icon of national unity. "Germans see Joschka as the lost son who has returned to the fold," says one of his biographers, journalist Marius Gies. "When my mother saw him on TV, she surrounded other sons and their strange ways."

Pulls aside that Fischer is especially well-liked among older women—like Gies's mother. They apparently do not mind his murky past, when he picked fights with the police, smoked marijuana or dodged Germany's mandatory 10-month military service. And they seem to have forgotten his more notorious outbursts in the 1980s when he lectured in parliament ("With all due respect, Mr. Speaker, you are ending [but an asshole]").

"Everything has been forgiven because Fischer has never tried to hide his past," says Manfred Gellner, chief politician with Berlin-based Focus. In 2001, when Stern, the Hamburg weekly, ran a 28-page-old picture of Fischer hitting a policeman, the minister briefly considered resigning. Instead, he apologized to the police union and phoned the victim, Rainer Maier, to say he was sorry. And German public opinion, it seems, turned the page.

The high-school dropout has shown extraordinary willpower, the kind of resolve that allowed him to shed 70 lbs. when he started to smoke after separating from his first wife. He is often commended for his intelligence, humor and skills as a public speaker. "He's on talk shows," says Michael Kuehl, a Humboldt University political scientist. "He's a political animal who has managed to pull off his transformation from protestor to politician." Adds Andreas Schockenhoff, a Chris-



tian Democratic Union member of the Bundestag. "He's a man of strong beliefs."

But critics' analysis agrees that Fischer is a man of conviction on two key issues: Germany's collective responsibility for the Holocaust, and European Union reform. Fischer has declared he will always be "a grandchild of Auschwitz," underscoring the importance of an issue that remains in the center of German public life. And he has been a fiery exponent of European integration and federalism, suggesting private, according to one source, that Brussels could one day stand up to Washington. On vema-

lly every other topic, however, it's hard to tell what Fischer really thinks, says Gies. After Sept. 11, for example, Fischer told that a German U.S. approachment was the only answer to terrorism. But then, during last October's election campaign, he insisted Berlin shouldn't take part in any military operations in Iraq, arguing instead that an EU alternative had to be found. More recently, he has been instrumental in putting together the joint German-French proposal of calling for stepped-up UN inspections in Iraq. On the topic of war, his attitude is now summed up in his recent reports to U.S. De-

The maverick foreign minister supported sending German troops to Afghanistan (right), but is now arguing for stepped-up UN inspections in Iraq



fense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. "Excuse me, I'm not convinced."

Gies sees Fischer as a maverick-type figure, both seductive and threatening. "In his presence, you immediately understand that this man uses his power to get power." Although popular, he is said to have few friends. "People who don't know him like him, and people who do know him dislike him," quips politician Gellner. Some criticize the minister for being a *Staatsschweiger* (state sequester), implying that he oversteers in his role as a politician.

Critics charge he has used the Green party as a vehicle for his own personal agenda. True or not, it wasn't a minor undertaking. "The Green party and authority don't mix," explains Kuehl. "Yet, Fischer can swing it as he wishes." An emotional debate raged within Green party ranks in 1999 over German involvement in Kosovo, which Fischer vociferously defended. That showed the most important deployment of German troops—about 5,000 soldiers—outside German borders since the Second World War.

Controversy flared again in the aftermath of Sept. 11 over Germany's contribution to the international coalition in Afghanistan. Schröder tabled a motion of confidence in the Bundestag—a new procedure used only four times since the end of the Second World War—that hinged on Green support. Fischer argued that a military intervention would not resolve anything initially, but was nonetheless a necessary first step. He insisted that the destruction of the World Trade Center bode ill for Green party ideals. "It was an attack on one of the most multicultural cities in the world, a symbol of the 'open society' in which we believe," observed Rumsfeld and Schröder, a top-ranking party official, echoing Fischer's stance. In the end,

only four Green parliamentarians voted against the motion, allowing the ruling coalition to win by a 10-vote margin (336 to 326).

Ulfke Guckert, a political scientist with the German Council on Foreign Relations, says Fischer understands the importance of alliances—unlike Schröder, who is on the record as saying he will "never" join the Americans in Iraq, which caused a furore in Washington. Fischer was dispatched to the U.S. in November to push things up, but was given the cold shoulder by President Bush and National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, who refused to meet him.

Ironically, the diplomatic rift came when Germany has joined command of the UN peacekeeping force in Afghanistan, until August. More than 1,000 German soldiers are participating in Enduring Freedom, the ongoing U.S.-led anti-al-Qaeda operation. And more than 900 German troops have been guarding American airbases in Germany since January to free up U.S. forces being transferred to the Gulf.

This balancing act between Germany's willingness to help its American allies and its reluctance to engage in combat resembles Fischer himself, a man who dropped out of school at age 15 after he showed signs of social isolation, that he still felt bitter about the teachers who had underestimated him. "What a career I could have had," he exclaimed. "And what career could this have been except?" asked the journalist, who could not fathom what before occupation the minister gained. Fischer just grinned. Now, with the West divided over Iraq, Fischer has positioned a challenge worthy of a gifted boy. **M**

Michel Arseneault, a Canadian journalist based in Paris, is a regular contributor to *Maclean's* sister publication *L'Espresso*.





## EASTERN HOT SPOTS

Halifax, Moncton, St. John's—people and money are flowing into three newly booming centres

**AT PRECISELY** what moment was it that that old, salt-lefied Halifax had become a city on the verge of greatness? It could have been in August 2000, when eight business executives chartered a Learjet in Toronto for \$38,000 and flew to Halifax just so they could drop \$3,600 at Maple, a restaurant then featuring celebrity TV chef Michael Smith. Perhaps it was the summer of 2001, when a waitress walked over to a table at the back of the Roanary Shoe Shop, a trendy downtown watering hole, and discovered she was serving Harrison Ford, Liam Neeson and Kevin Spacey, all in town on big-budget Hollywood movie shoots. Maybe the moment came last summer, when 2,900 rail rum-pug executives, their suppliers and business associates, some arriving by helicopter, swarmed Georges Island in Halifax Harbour, swilling beer and puffing cigars amid

the remnants of a 200-year-old fort. Or perhaps it was earlier this year, when a couple of condos in a South End Halifax development went for more than \$1 million each, a figure once unimaginable in the city to which Rudyard Kipling gave the trendy nickname "warden of the Honour of the North."

If only Kipling were alive today. He could take a stroll along downtown Doyle Street, once home to down-at-the-beef warehouses. Nowadays, visitors drop \$680 on a 1990 Chateau Lafite Rothschild at Port of Wines, \$19 on a bottle of De Wijn's balsamic vinegar at the Italian Gourmet, or \$2 on a hand-made chocolate truffle at Sweet Jane's. Look up and they'll see a string of high-end condos, one of which last changed hands for \$1.2 million. "Sometimes you have to shake your head and remember that this is Halifax," says Ruth Goldblum, the city's doyenne

of fundraising, who moved there from Montreal in 1967 and lives just a couple of blocks from Doyle Street. "It's got a pulse like it's never had before."

Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto and Montreal don't have to worry just yet. With a population of 360,000, Halifax is only Canada's 13th largest city ("big enough for a symphony, too small for adultery," as some locals describe it). But it's never had much of it.

It helps, of course, to have the navy, port, federal and provincial governments, universities and colleges to bolster the economy. But now Halifax also has new, forward-looking industries—oil and gas, Elms, info-mission technology and bio-science—to match its institutions. The hard numbers bear out the shift. The Canadian Real Estate Association ranks Halifax—where the average house price was up 27 per cent in October from a year earlier—among the hottest housing markets in the country. The 7.5-per-cent unemployment rate, close to the national average, is comfortably below the 9.7 per cent for the more populous. Halifax's job rate is particularly notable in light of the



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16,000 newcomers the city has absorbed since 1996, nearly half of them from outside the province. The influx makes Halifax home to fully 30 per cent of Nova Scotia's population—and a magnet for job-seekers from down-trodden areas of the province where unemployment soars as high as 25 per cent.

Yet Halifax is hardly the only Atlantic boom town basking the nodal from staggering rural areas. Urbanization continues its inexorable march all across Canada, with fully 79 per cent of people now living in larger towns and cities, according to the latest census. What's speeding up the trend in Atlantic Canada is the relative prosperity of a few dynamic centres compared to the idly rural economies surrounding them. Consider St. John's, awash in oil money, which maintained its population even as the overall numbers in Newfoundland slid by seven per cent between 1996 and 2000.

Then there's Moncton, once a roundabout rail town. Now, thanks to thousands of oil-service jobs and a renewed entrepreneurial flak, it's at the verge of replacing Saint John as New Brunswick's most vibrant economy. While census data showed the provincial population slipping by one per cent, Moncton and the surrounding centres of Dieppe

Syperek worries that development may strip his city of its distinctive look and charm.

and Riverview grew by 9.6 per cent to more than 117,000.

Those success stories, however, are still the exception to the rule. "In places like Halifax and Moncton, things are going very well," says Donald Sirokie, holder of an endowed chair in economic development at the University of Moncton. "But if you look at other parts of Atlantic Canada, there are still some fairly major problems." All the same, it can be easy to forget about your poor-country neighbours when you're lighting up a \$32 Romano's Julietta at Ben's Little Havana Café cigar bar in downtown Halifax, or tooting off at one of the new golf courses within a half-hour drive. Or when you're wearing a costly ivory cashmere, paddling along the redwood floors of the Spa at the Monastery, a converted Roman Catholic monastery in St. John's, part one of the high-end spa popping up in second-tier East Coast cities. There, customers choosing the \$390 Body Rituals treatment are pampered with a screened body wrap, hydrotherapy session and 45-minute massage, followed by a fresh fruit smoothie served in the café.

"The biggest complaint we have," says owner Paul Madden, "is the amount of time people have to wait to get in."

The new prosperity is spreading beyond the tony downtown areas. In Halifax, most of the city's growth is happening in suburbs such as Clayton Park West (up 74 per cent since the last census), Bedford (as much as 55 per cent), and Hammonds Plains (48 per cent). In Greater Moncton, Dieppe's growth has seen the town upgraded to city status. And there's enough demand for housing in the community of St. Philip's, just west of St. John's, that people are paying up \$300,000 to \$800,000 for handsome, custom-built homes with a view of the cold ocean waters of Conception Bay and the sun setting behind Bell Island.

New people and money are giving the cities a wide-open, anything-is-possible feel. The arc of Claude Lévesque's career is illustrative. He worked for CN Rail as a machinist before (thanks to the Crown corporation) in the 1980s sent the Moncton area into a tailspin. Laid off in 1982, he went into fixed estate business. Now 43, Lévesque's a partner in a new, 50-acre housing development planned for Dieppe that will offer houses for anything from \$120,000 to \$450,000. "It's not Calgary," he says, "but this is the strongest I've ever seen the economy here. And unless something drastic happens, I can't see it changing."

New-found prosperity presents its own problems. The increased population in Halifax is evident in the longer commutes from the suburbs. Growth is also a challenge for the already overcrowded schools in all three cities. A surge of development can wreak havoc on anything, but particularly ones with long, storied histories like Halifax and St. John's. "These developers have no respect," complains Victor Syperek, owner of the Economy Shoe Shop and seven other bars and restaurants in Halifax. "They rip them down, they put them up. And these new buildings are devoid of any architectural merit." Syperek and others see a risk that Halifax's distinctive look and charm of the building corridors unchained. But for most people, that's a long way off. Living on the East Coast means knowing fame can change at any moment. For now, they're determined to bask in the sunlight, for however long it lasts.

West Chebucto Schoolhouse in Moncton and South West Hill in St. John's.

PHOTOGRAPH BY GUY ALOTT

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# GOAL: 'WORLD DOMINATION'

The CEO of romance powerhouse Harlequin talks about selling sexier fiction

**SOPHISTICATES** like to make fun of Harlequin romances, but the bottom line is no joke. Harlequin Enterprises Ltd. is not only Canada's largest and most profitable book publisher—it's among the most profitable in the world. Founded in Winnipeg in 1949 and owned since 1981 by Terra Corp., a parent company of the Jensen Beer, Harlequin sells at books in 131 countries and 25 languages. Lately it has been branching out from its traditional romance niche. Aiming for a wider audience, it has introduced new lines that are sexier and more modern. Donna Hayes, an 18-year Harlequin veteran who became president and publisher a year ago and was last week promoted to CEO, recently spoke with National Business Correspondent Katherine Mackinnon.

**What's been your focus in your first year at the top?**

Our rallying cry is that world domination of women's fiction is our vision. For me, the number 1 thing is to be able to engage every one in our company to understand that shared vision.

**What do you mean by women's fiction?**

Books by women about women for women. This is controversial women's fiction, at the moment, not literary fiction. It's anything from romance fiction, which is our core, of course, and still a major part of what we do, to relationship novels, thrillers, mysteries, historical fiction and fantasy. When I came here, I was confounded by the fact that we sold books the same way we sold magazines. We had fantastic distribution, but our books were generally overlooked for four weeks, and then new books were put into place. So if you were a fan, it was very hard to go back and read other books by the same author. Our lists were much more on brand. Now, within our North American market, half of what we sell and half our profits are based on a more traditional publishing model, where we're selling by author. For example, Erica Spender is a very big au-

thor for us who writes romantic suspense—we publish her all around the world.

**What's the business objective? Is it to reach a younger audience?**

No, broader audience. We have only seven per cent of the women's fiction market in North America. We're trying to present a huge opportunity for growth for us. As a series romance business, we have virtually 100 per cent market share in North America. We've had almost 20 years of growth for Harlequin, which is phenomenal—bar at five to six per cent, in revenue and earnings. The plan now is to do significantly better. Part of it is this single title business. Red Dragon is a line we launched a year and a half ago. Our intention—I guess the shorthand in Bridget Jones, or the chick-lit phenomenon—was to buy editorial that would be really appealing to young women, probably between 20 and 30. We started out doing one of these books a month. They were so successful we've already moved to two, and we're going to three by year-end.

We're doing a brand new one called *North-shall*. You can think about it in terms of TV shows like *Alison Gandy* the *Thriller* *Sleazy*—shows for young women who really like adventure, who want to be in control of their own situation, and where romance is probably in it but a secondary part of the plot.

**Do the new books follow a pattern as the traditional romance stories did? You know, girl meets boy, he's sexy, she loves him around and they live happily ever after. Is there a formula for the other lines as well?**

It's a great myth that our books are written in an absolute context in our series romance books, always, in that there has to be a happy ending. That's what we deliver, and promise to our reader. No question about that. But if you actually look at the characteristics and the people who are in the books, they're very, very different. Our readers understand that non-readers tend

to look at them as a big category.

With the others, there's a broader editorial content, for sure, and one example we like to cite as a writer we have called Alex Kava, who writes really sexy books about serial killers. But they're wonderful. We read them. But it would be hard to imagine something that's more different than what you would think of as a typical romance.

**Are you a reader?**

I do use U.S. statistics because it's a bigger market, but the same thing would be true in Canada. Our reader, for the most part, is only slightly above the average person in the American cross-section age, same household income. The one thing that sets her apart is the likes to read. Readers who buy through the mail tend to be older, readers who buy in retail stores—Walmart or wherever—tend to be the average, and those who buy from our Internet sites tend to be younger.

**Are all your writers women?**

Almost. I met a great guy in England when we were throwing an author party last fall. He served as a schoolteacher, and he was hired. But he always read his wife's books and thought, "You know, I could write this" and he has done it beautifully. He told me his wife was sometimes a bit shy about reading them. She didn't know he actually thought about things that way.

We have one husband and wife team, who write under the name Tom Cartigan. They actually have done that fact each other. They write each of their books together, they do a beautiful job, and they're happily married 20 years later. I have no idea how, but they're great.

**Harlequin is known as *Toronto's cash cow*. What do you think of that description?**

The reason people used to reach for "cash cow" was the application that we were low growth. That's not the case. We're almost half of *Toronto's* revenue—about 42 per cent, but creeping up. And in fact, we've had a



"It's a great myth," says Hayes, "that our books are written to a formula."

couple of years of very strong growth, and we expect that to continue.

Although we're small from a global sales perspective, one of the statistics I love is that our return on sales last year was over 18 per cent. Our clean competition would be *Hogart's* at 13 per cent—and they're good—and then you get a bunch hovering down around five per cent.

**What's the secret?**

I love to do this sort of I'm giving a speech. I'll say, "OK, how many people know who John Grisham is?" Every hand in the room goes up. "How many people know his publisher?" Unless you're in a publishing crowd, every hand goes down. "How many people know Harlequin?" Every hand goes up. So, incredibly strong brand names in Harlequin and *Widdowson*.

We don't all our rights to others—we keep all the publishing rights in we publish around the world. We're the only publisher that sells

only its own books in its book club. And we're very specific in the focus just makes us more efficient.

**Do you see getting into film or TV?**

Not right now, but I wouldn't rule out the possibility at some point in the future.

**People sometimes think that what works in North America may not work in Japan or Europe or South America, but you're not facing that.**

No, we're not. If you think about entertainment in general, if you think about *Donna Hayes* or any of the really big writers like Grisham who get translated and sell really well, entertainment travels, actually, quite well. People have been an experienced reader around the world.

**One of your new imprints, called *Blaze* in English, is called *Fire* in Dutch. How easy is it to have your guidelines?**

For us first, which is our focus first, there are some guidelines: no one can get it, there have to be two people who are in a committed relationship, no explicit sex, no casual sex. Anything on the other side of that line would not be suitable for the kind of values we have in the company. But if you read one of those books, they're pretty hot. They're the best of any line. And you know what? They really sell well on the Internet. What's buying the series books? We started out with a bias that it would be younger women. In time, our readers were young. It's women of any age.

**Should we be surprised to find that women like spy books?**

Nope. Look at *Sherlock and the City*. Look at the kinds of television programming we're all watching. Look at *People* magazine and the kind of photographs in it, and in it, which is a great one now. It's part of the culture, so why should we be surprised?









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### Will Ferguson's Canada | >

spanning rain, I walked down to the waste or side of the cone, where whitecaps were being driven in violently against the shore. Different logs, bleached as white as white bones, formed the stony beach in a giant's jumble. I suggested at times, buffeted by the wind, my jacket whipped about, my ears filled with white noise, until I reached a narrow of dark forest at one end. Here, the path turned inward, leading to an old groveyard, the collection of crosses leaning this way and that, some having tumbled over benignly, others' high angles sinking into mossy green shadows.

There is a different kind of churchliness among the trees at Friendly Cove. Pooled in this forest is a small rocky lake, and toward the far side of this lake is a wooded shed. And on this site once stood a secret whaling shrine—a holy site that predicated the arrival of Christianity to this coast by at least 1,000 years. It was a shrine so secret that one, John Jewett, who spent more than two years among the Nuuwachiut, taking endless notes, never mentioned its existence.

Among the Nuuwachiut, whaling was held in awe—and understandably so. It was a breathtakingly dangerous pursuit, hunting whales on steep oceans in order to eat. The whales lived apart from a bear, a moose and a wolf, and in the hidden shore on this small shelf they performed ancient purification rituals and cleansing meals.

Today, a series of well-camouflaged beaches along the lake, across the water from the site, that the shrine used to be gone. It was stolen in 1964 and shipped to the American Museum of Natural History.

The site at Friendly is a sacred location. It is also, tellingly said, a reminder of things lost. Things squandered. It is a reminder as well that our national narrative doesn't begin with the arrival of European ships. Perhaps that was right, perhaps we only ever hear one side of any story that there are other narratives and that parallel histories all around us, hidden in the forests, reaching through the reeds.

I walked back along the grassy rise above the beach. The rain had turned to mist, and in the distance I could see the First Nations, referred to as the dock, engine sailing, waiting for me to leave.

Will Ferguson is the author of *Canadian History for Dummies*. To comment: will@willferguson.com or via Web 2.0 at: www.willferguson.ca

### Column | DONALD COOK



## THE SICK GREENBACK

As the dollar's troubles worsen, watch China and its currency. Then watch gold.

THAT THE AMERICAN dollar would enter a major bear market was inevitable, because the U.S. has long been deeply uncompetitive in international trade. America has enjoyed a current account surplus only once in the past 14 years: during the post-9/11 Gulf War, but oil sales to Saudi Arabia and Abu Dhabi contributed to the costs of the war, and such purchases as Germany and Japan paid the U.S. billions of dollars rather than supply imports.

That monetary approach to war won't happen this time, because even those states eager to get rid of Saddam (most of the world, except, possibly, France) are now willing only to hold the U.S. one and hold their noses.

How overvalued is the U.S. dollar? The nation's trade deficit was US\$40 billion in November and US\$44 billion in December. Add in short-term capital flows, and the world's biggest economy is hemorrhaging five per cent of GDP. The trade deficit is, cragged more than US\$1 billion per working day in the late 1990s, but now exceeds US\$1.75 billion—the rough equivalent of 115,000 Toyota Corollas a day.

The reason the greenback doesn't collapse from one-day bleeding is that the dollar is the pre-eminent financial currency. As American consumers send money abroad to buy the things that define The American Way of Life, foreigners don't dump those dollars they invest them in what has been the most dynamic economy in the industrial world, buying U.S. bonds, stocks and real estate. More importantly, they pour several billions of those dollars into the great global parking space—the Eurodollar market.

Eurodollars are dollars deposited in banks anywhere outside the U.S. If you maintain an American dollar account with your bank in Canada, you are a Eurodollar holder. That puts you in the same game with global corporations, governments, doctors, drug lords, and millions of people around the world who feel comfortable holding short-term deposits in the world's money

and not public currency "you—and they—are at risk in the dollar base."

Since the American dollar went on a tear in the late 1990s, the buildup in Eurodollars has apparently been enough to maintain a currency bull market despite the worsening trade deficit. It may "apparently" because no one counts Eurodollars, although most international commodities agree they are the world's biggest pool of financial liquidity.

A big percentage of that Eurodollar pool is lent by banks abroad to American banks. They use this money to finance loans and mortgages, supporting The American Way of Life. Hedgefunder Associates estimates that the U.S. is tapping more than 70 per cent of all short-term savings in the world to finance its current account deficit and keep the economy from plunging into recession.

Scott's Law says, "If something cannot go on forever, it will stop."

The U.S. dollar deflated fairly for years because the U.S. stock market deflated it, drawing in hundreds of billions of dollars to buy those glamorous tech stocks that were building what was known as the New Economy. Foreigners poured in to be as glib as Americans in believing that companies with no real earnings (after accounting for stock option costs) were worth billions.

When reality hit Nasdaq—like an airliner—the U.S. went into recession, and the days of dollar glory were numbered. At the moment, what prevents a veritable plunge is that the two heavyweight alternatives to the dollar—the euro and the yen—give the holder the right to participate in two of the world's most unappealing economic assets. When a country's currency is overvalued,

and its factories and services suffer, that currency should fall to a level that restores competitiveness. That's Economics 101.

If you're working this time. The U.S. trade deficit has been worsening along with the value of the dollar. In part this is due to the normal lag that attends a currency revaluation. Because of orders made far in advance around the globe, it can take from six months to two years before the full effect of a currency drop shows in the trade account.

But this time, something even more challenging is happening: the beleaguered U.S. economy. China will not let its currency—the renminbi, or yuan—float (English translation: it stays in the value of the U.S. dollar). Instead, when the dollar falls 20 per cent against the yuan, 10 per cent against the yen and so on per cent against the loonie, so does the renminbi.

China, the world's most formidable export force and the biggest contributor to the U.S. trade deficit, goes global manufacturing as the greenback tries to reach the equilibrium that will let America compete. (In the past 12 months, the U.S. has lost 430,000 manufacturing jobs, since the dollar bull market began in 1995, more than three million factory jobs have migrated abroad.)

Major currency bear markets take years, and always end in overreaction, in which the currency becomes seriously undervalued. That's what happened to the eurozone economy after 1999, when they fell more than 40 per cent against the dollar. Their recovery, the euro, has recently recovered roughly one-third of that loss, and will probably regain the rest in the next two years.

The industrial world will not forever let China continue to gain global share by suppressing its currency. Japan did that in the 1980s, keeping its yen in the 150 range to the dollar, before the industrial nations eventually gave Japan a choice: we'll sweeten half your export exports unless you float your currency, giving our producers a choice. The yen soared in value to 60 per cent.

Expect the G7 to impose currency fairness on China. When China's currency floats, the dollar's bear market will intensify, and gold prices will shoot skyward.

Scott's Law always wins. It just takes time.

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**How overvalued is the U.S. dollar? Every working day, the trade deficit exceeds US\$1.75 billion—or about 115,000 Toyota Corollas.**









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## LAND, LOTS OF LAND

My Prairie town may be shrinking, but there's plenty of reason to stay

**WALL STREET** and Park Avenue: distant addresses. They're part of my neighbourhood, along with 20 seasonal bulls and beans that influence the community. To be completely accurate, we live on Wall Avenue, which intersects with Park Street in a town that intersects with nowhere. On its concrete terms, three hours by car from the nearest commercial airport in Regina, two hours from the Trans-Canada Highway and one hour from the Yellowhead, which means it takes a day to feel a metropolitan pulse.

Kenneth, Sask., is a pretty little town nestled in rolling, fertile fields that give way to a thick green forest of a provincial park, so it's true about the bulls and beans. Within 16 km lie two golf courses where interns are rare and annual fairs abound, a pond of a lake jumping with pickeral, and a pond of Saskatchewan's best all fish (to which skeptics might as well, "Compensate to what?" but it does have 20 trout).

The founding fathers also had the foresight to plant trees throughout the town, most notably on Wall, where elm lining both sidewalks joins across the road into leafy canopy for half the year. It was an idyllic place to raise three daughters in the '70s and '80s. An outstanding band program, dancing, figure skating and all the school sports were compatible with their schedules, because I was able to transfer them from one venue to another while the positions were being filled. Even the hazy teenage years were well monitored by friends and neighbours, whether the kids liked it or not.

But?

Like many Prairie towns, ours is shrinking. The removal of several grain elevators has reduced the skyline, young people, our own included, continue to seek opportunities in larger centres and Main Street has been partially dismantled by fire and closures. We still boast a hospital, library and playhouse, but a 28 per cent reduction in population is a big chunk of the 2,800 who were here when we arrived in 1976. A dramatic fall-out from this crisis has been the tanking of real-estate

values. We noted this decline when we put our house on the market and didn't get one offer in three years. My husband had retired and we wanted at least to be closer to an airport, if not to our daughters in Alberta and B.C. The hopelessness of the situation, however, was confirmed by two newspaper ads last year. The first was from a private owner seeking \$20,000 for five revenue homes. If that wasn't sobering enough, the following week a real estate agency offered 11 homes for \$20,000 if bought as a package; individually listed, these combined total was \$41,964. One of them was three doors down.

Since then, the little bungalow without a lot across the street has been sacrificed off for \$2,000 and the message is clear: The equity in our 3,000-square-foot home, bought 26 years ago, would probably not equal that of a bachelor condo anywhere in Canada we would want to live. Unfortunately, I see similar dealings in Vancouver as well, and not even pretent, ones that are selling for one or two hundred times what these homes are asking.

Besides providing eye-popping conversation for our friends in any city, what's left

to someone marooned in a town where a house is worth less than a goat hide?

Make peace with it. Consider what we have against what we are missing. Space, for one thing, inside and out. Over the past snowbound Christmas holiday, we comfortably accommodated our whole family, consisting of seven adults and two babies, for nine days. Try that in a bachelor condo. During times of heightened global uncertainty there's also a consolation that comes from harboring your loved ones in a far-gotten corner of the world where home-grown provisions are routinely used and firewood is cheap. As long as they are prepared to make the grueling long trip with toddlers trapped in car seats, or the semi-grueling plane/road trip, we can own often than the beach 15 minutes away in summer.

There is also the cowboy factor. We experience the amenities of a city with fresh wonder when we do go there. Or could it be the reconnection with our past, for we were involuntary exiles here before we moved here. If we income the skin splits that come from pondering all that prevention, rebels a few gulps of robust fumes mixed in with the diversity of signs, people, restaurants and merchandise, knowing we will be returning to highways where we could meet five or five vehicles in an hour. Even the anticipation leading up to our urban bliss can never be understood by people who have it constantly at their disposal.

Of course, things could change in our town. Older gas might be found in the region, the government might restore some programs in underpopulated areas, or WestJet might decide to fly into Yellowknife. Or signs could go up at the four entrances to town, as they did recently, advertising lots for \$1. There are 100 of them, I'm told.

In the ancient me, my husband and I will continue to walk, read, write, golf (him), knit (me) and gather with these friends and neighbours with whom we now share a long history—in other words, put us in our walking shoes and make the same way we would anywhere else. If I do happen to miss the city as I contemplate the ocean of prairie against a perfect sky with a Volly, use overcast pre-dawn spring, I can always imagine it to be the real ocean in English Bay with seagulls circling. But it is not usually necessary.

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He's a modest star who prefers a low profile, so his risky anti-war stand says a lot, writes JAMES DEACON

# MAVERICK NASH

AT A MEXICAN food cafeteria on the edge of downtown Dallas, they know right away it's Steve Nash coming in the door. He's in jeans, a long-sleeved T and a light jacket, but you can't miss the shaggy hair, the shy smile and the fact that, in this town especially, he's a major dude. So the guys behind the counter who take his order and serve up his chicken burrito (with tomatoes, corn and lettuce) do double-takes and the manager at the tiller says "This is ours!" when Nash pulls out his wallet to pay. Nash thanks him profusely, and nods his appreciation to the counter crew before carrying his tray out to a table on the sunny patio.

With a contract that's paying him US\$5.75 million this season, not to mention endorsements, Nash can eat anywhere he wants. So it's at least a little surprising that he chooses to eat at a fast-food cafeteria. And a little rusty, most times he goes out, he gets mobbed by autograph hounds. He's not thinking about that. After a hard morning workout, he's ready to dig in and, looking dubiously at one many-sports jacket and light-colored dress shirt and pants, he's kind enough to warn the about what's to come. "These things are healthy, the stuff in them is fresh, and they taste great," he says, preparing to bite into the overstuffed tortilla. "But they're really messy." By his smile, it's clear that appeals to him, and it's a good thing other persons leave him alone because otherwise he'd be signing autographs and posing for pictures with kids on his chin. "I've never had the discipline to eat these meals," he says with a shrug.

The Nash we usually see is the one in the number 13 Dallas Mavericks singlet, sweet-smiled and serene on TV. We know he's 29 and from Victoria, has a great network ethic, is fiercely competitive and is all business from pre-game shoot-around to final buzzer. He's been a huge contributor to basketball in Canada as the leader of the national team, and he's been a generous sponsor of a grassroots participation program in B.C. that was funded by the Vancouver Grizzlies and then abandoned when the team moved to Memphis.

And he's always had game. As a teen he led Saint Michaels University School to the B.C. senior boys high-school title in 1992. He was twice named conference player-of-the-year while at Sierra Clara University in California. And this season, averaging 18 points and seven assists per game, he was









team, we were always determined to beat the first team—and we had fun doing it," Penley says with a chuckle. When they were recruited in Dallas, they were determined to win a championship, and build a competitive team. Standing by his locker room wall, Penley waves an arm. "Look around here," he says. "We got along real well, and we're winning. Everything was worked hard fun coming together right now."

Nash used to find motivation in opponents who took him too highly. Now he plays to impress himself. Either way, his competitiveness is deeply ingrained. His parents—they're now retired, but just waded in as a special-ed teacher's assistant, and John, who played semi-pro soccer in England, was marketing manager for a soccer union in Victoria—encouraged all three kids to play various sports. Martin, a long-time member of Canada's national team, and sister Joana, captain of the University of Victoria women's team, eventually made hockey too. Steve, the oldest, excelled at soccer and basketball, but decided to concentrate on hoops in his mid-twenties. "I love to compete," he says. "It's in my nature, or my family influences, or maybe both. I used to be competitive off the court as well, but I've grown out of that. In a lot of ways, I'm really laid back, but I also want to grow and succeed and grow to myself that I can get better."

**NASH WANTS** to dispel one myth. Being unattached and rich and famous has its merits, but it gets old. "I went through being that young single guy, having what everyone else thinks is the world in my

**'I don't want to single out the U.S., because we're not perfect in Canada either,' Nash says. 'I think war is wrong.'**

hands," he says, smiling in a way that suggests he had a lot of fun. But his current life suits him better, having found happiness in domesticity with his girlfriend, Alejandra Amorillo, whom he met a year ago in New York and who now shares his townhouse in Austin, TX. From Paraguay, known little about basketball—the lived in Manhattan for three years without knowing the Knicks were the home team—and studies Romance languages in Dallas. He's a student. "A lot of it is maturity," he says of his new lifestyle. "You know you're ready to make a commitment when you grow into love, stability and firmness to share your life with someone mature. I guess."

When he's got five, Nash indulges in voracious curiosity. "I have a lot of interests, in books, music, current events, sports—I find things fascinating," he says. "I don't feel like I have to go back to school and become a professional student occasionally, but I like to learn." Will he do another career? "I'm not really sure what I'll do after basketball, and part of me worries that it'll be an incredibly difficult transition," he says. "But another part of me feels like it'll be incredibly exciting. And hopefully, I'll have a family to spend time with after basketball."

His curiosity about politics sparked his concerns about an imminent Gulf war. A high-school friend with whom he's stayed close is involved with a Vancouver-based activist organization called the UBC Coalition Against War On the People of Iraq. She's been sending him stories and books to read, and he's found a lot that resonates with his own "borderline pacifist and humanitarian" feelings. "I don't want to single out the United States, because we're not perfect in Canada either," he says. "I think war is wrong. You'd think we'd have evolved to the point where we'd stop shooting one another. Maybe that's just childish thinking, but that's what I hope."

Strangely, his all-star status didn't get much play in Dallas. A few season-ticket holders threatened to cancel their subscriptions, but there was very little negative reaction beyond that. Privately, a Dallas newspaper columnist applauded Nash for taking an unpopular stance—big-name athletes such as Michael Jordan and Wayne Gretzky have generally avoided choosing sides on controversial social issues. Nash knows there could have been a backlash. "It was a risk I was willing to take, because I feel it's a time when all of us need to take ownership of our role in things," he explains. "Politicians are elected by people, by us. President Bush and his people have their reasons, but I'm not sure anyone really knows what those reasons really are. And I think that's a shame, because we have allowed the political climate to be such that our reason isn't heard."

Now that he's back in his hometown, he's in the game. The playoffs begin next month and the Mavericks are in rough. The defending champion Los Angeles Lakers are coming on, and San Antonio and Sacramento will make it difficult for the Mavericks to their conference, let alone the NBA championship. Yet Nash knows this might be the Mavericks' best chance—five games and injuries can dismantle even the deepest of rosters. "We have a strong group that's selfish by today's standards, but we also have the ego to win," he says. So he's doing what he's done since he was a kid—practicing, preparing, competing. He has his priorities. "Some day, I'd like to have a much bigger impact with charities and other things," he says. "But right now, I have to make the most of this because, in basketball, this window of opportunity is so small. It's a short career, so I can't let down."



## A LABOUR OF LOVE

Life and art converge as Deborah Day delivers her first feature, and first baby

**THE DIRECTOR** of *Expecting* was... expecting. Deborah Day was three days overdue. And on sunny mornings in late January, as we sat in the third-floor loft of her Toronto house, I kept wondering if our interview might be cut short by contractions. So far, Day's life and art have converged with uncanny symmetry. The 39-year-old filmmaker, soon to give birth to her first child, had just directed her first feature, an improvised comedy about childbirth. From the first day of rehearsal—filming on Sept. 18, 2001—very little had gone according to plan. Certainly, no one had expected that Victoria Beckham, the actress playing the mother-to-be, would be eight months pregnant when the camera rolled. "As a director you're a bit of a control freak," said Day, appearing prematurely old in a nest of pillows. "But making

this movie was a lesson in giving up control." Then she laughs. "Now that I've got my own baby coming, I know I've got to cheer but to give up control."

Late winter is the off-season for Hollywood movies, and a time when one Canadian film after another tries to kick its way into the light, groping for breath at the box office. Over the past month, we've seen the release of *The Day After Tomorrow*, *Spider-Man*, *Crash*, *Goodbye Lenin!*, *Two People and a Cradle*. Day's film is another in a series, one we anticipate, in any of these films. But as a broad, often farcical, comedy about labour, *Expecting* has more originality and wit than you might expect. With its bawdy tone,

The director behind *Expecting*, photographed 10 days before giving birth



it feels more like a Quebec comedy than one from English Canada.

The midlife narrative spans a 24-hour, homebirth "labour party." Stephanie (Beckham) is a free-spirited performer who's determined to have her baby in her loft. She's arranged for a midwife and an adorable birth pool. On hand to help out when the event is more chaotic than linked by a day chain of complications: Stephanie's doula (Stephanie's sister, Anna) (Doris McCreath), a childhood drama-queen who she's been dating, shows alcohol and drugs home birth is a horrendous mistake. The sensitive midwife, Julia (Angela Gie), was Anna's oldest friend until she stole her sweetheart and had five kids with him. Stephanie's labour partner is Dave (Barbara Badel), a busy TV reporter who's in love with Anna's brother. Meanwhile, the men include a rival food photographer (Colin Mochizuki), a broker who's traded the market for an ashram (Tim Matheson), and a drum-major academic from Toronto (Dorian Johnson).

The story evolved from a conventional script that Day drew out and never showed to the actors. Everyone's dialogue is improvised on camera. And from the opening scene—a hour of leavemaking that begins Stephanie's premature labour—Beckham's naked pregnancy adds a graphic note of realism. Nicholas, the actor in bed with her, was a bit bewildered, Day recalls. "He said, 'I've never made love to a pregnant woman, never made someone I don't know.'"

This is a comedy that has no antibodies about going over the top. As the pains the women undergo Stephanie uses hidden microphones. Yes, *Expecting* is a chick flick. And you get the sense that, in weaving their dialogue, the women just can't keep up. But as Day points out, the story was designed with the women in the foreground—and three of the actresses, including Beckham, served as associate producers.

Beckham, 34, got pregnant after she was cast and kept it secret for as long as possible. "I was scared to tell them," she says. "It's sort of old idea of thinking it's pregnant women are useless." Researching the role convinced Beckham to opt for a home birth, but after 40 hours of labour, her baby boy was delivered in a hospital by C-section section. As for Day, she didn't try to have music. One week after our interview, she delivered her project overtime and over budget—as 11-lb. daughter.



Sports are in the Nash genes—junior brother Martin (left) plays in England and for Canada's national team, while sister Joana (in) is at the University of Victoria



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## MUSIC | 58

Teen pop with  
substance

Singer-songwriter  
Liam Fittomb proves  
that in these anxiety  
times even 15-year-  
olds can be dark.



## ARTS | 56

How to raise an orchestra's profile

This week, National Arts Centre Orchestra  
musical director Pinchas Zukerman will  
attend a dinner at the New York City home  
of Canadian-born news anchor Peter Jennings  
in an effort to raise awareness of the  
orchestra before its upcoming U.S. tour.



## Listings | March is blooming

Canada Blooms  
March 22-26

The Metro Toronto  
Convention Centre  
features six acres  
of gardens, a  
judged flower show  
and a celebrity  
flower arranging  
competition.  
Toronto

Super Modern  
World of Beauty  
Until April 30

"Post-conceptual in  
nature, yet still  
poised in response to  
Modernity," is how  
the Metro Toronto  
Gallery describes this  
exhibit, in which seven  
contemporary artists  
explore beauty.  
North York

Post-Industrial  
Until March 26

A multidisciplinary  
event of Barban  
and Latin American  
culture with film,  
art and music.  
Montreal

Moort and Hout  
Until March 26

The Victor is  
Commissary of  
Music editorial in the  
work of the  
famous composers.  
Victoria

Adventure Africa  
March 18-19

This special March  
trip exhibit at the  
Nova Scotia  
Museum of Natural  
History includes  
African drawings,  
storytelling and  
cultural music to  
the continent.  
Halifax

**People |** The doctor will be  
seen by you now

It's Thursday morning and Dr. Marla Shapiro is off and running. After arriving at CTV's Toronto studios at 6:45 a.m., the 46-year-old TV host tapes two 30-minute episodes of *Balcone Television for Living Well*—the channel's new daily health and lifestyle show. On this particular day she talks to sex guru Sue Johanson in one segment and helps to cook macaroni in another. Once filming wraps around noon, Shapiro rushes to her nearby office. Half-jogging, she grabs a salad on her way out of the studio and jumps into a waiting van. Traffic slows her down, but it gives the Montreal native about 30 minutes to switch focus—from on-camera personality to family physician. "I've had to restructure the time when I see patients," she says, "but I still see as many as

Shapiro's an  
overachiever with  
a daily TV show and  
a family practice

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Shapiro on *Balcone*  
every weekday  
evening on CTV



I see. It's important I walk the walk if I'm  
going to talk the talk."

Shapiro has always been an overachiever. She graduated from high school at 15, completed her medical degree from McGill a month shy of her 23rd birthday—then moved to Toronto in 1981 and opened a full-time practice four years later. Her first TV appearance as a medical expert was on *Cyber* in 1993. That was also the year she lost her 16-month-old son, Jason (she has three other children) to sudden infant death syndrome. In an effort to raise public awareness, Shapiro worked the country as a spokesperson for the Canadian Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths. "It was an opportunity to turn Jason's death into something meaningful," she says. "It allowed me to carry everything I am—a mother, a wife, a friend, a medical expert, a medical journalist and a doctor." JOHN HIRSH





### Arts | Serving Canadian music with a side of Arctic char

Peter Jennings knows something about the U.S. art scene. He's on the board of Carnegie Hall and is involved with Jazz at Lincoln Center. So who better to raise the profile of Canada's National Arts Centre Orchestra in the U.S.—before it embarks on a south-of-the-border tour in the fall—than this Ottawa-based ABC *World News Tonight* anchor? On March 6, Jennings and his wife, Joyce Wood, a TV producer, will host a dinner at their cozy New York City home, introducing the NAC Orchestra musical director, renowned conductor and violinist Pinchas Zukerman, to about 30 influential Americans and U.S.-based Canadians, including series 6 U.S. senator George Mitchell and artist Joel Shapiro, whose

sculpture is on display at the U.S. embassy in Ottawa. "My wife and I were talking about the dinner this morning," says Jennings. "I think we'll serve Arctic char."

Even though the National Arts Centre opened five years after Jennings left Canada, he's definitely a fan. In 1994, he actually performed at the NAC, playing the narrator in a one-man temporary version of *The Merry Widow*. "It was one of the greatest occasions of my adult life," he says. So for Jennings, helping out with a dinner was a natural thing. "I'm really glad that they've done so well with Zukerman," he says. "I'm interested, as any Canadian would be, in the whole notion of continuing to develop and produce Canadian work." SARA KRAVITZ

### Diversions | Lynn Coady

Here's what the Vancouver-based author (*Baker of My Heart*) likes: MUSIC: THE WEAKENDINERS. Follow "A Winnipeg band that plays raucous straight-ahead guitar rock—with a real social conscience." BOOKS: BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS, by Kurt Vonnegut. "It's one of my all-time favourites. He does some really interesting things with narrative and point of view."



### Video Games | Retro cool

BLING TV CHAIRS

(Just Add Members, Microsoft)



Based on Tiki Tong's movies, this multi-player fighting game is great for parties. Choose a cartoon-like character and pick a location—backdrops are borrowed after hit movies like Titanic. Jurassic Parked. Action Jones. Fight your way across the steamer deck as it sinks into the ocean or on a raft caught in the jaws of a T. rex. With straightforward controls and no button combinations to memorize, even a novice player can pick up this one fairly quickly.

ACTING ANTHOLOGY (Netflix.com)



This anthology is for gamers with an appetite for vintage. Forty-eight different games that first appeared on the Atari 2600 in the 1980s are packed onto this disc, including hits like *Chopper Command* and *Intell* and obscure titles such as *Pique Attack* and *Space Shuttle*. Adding to the retro experience is a soundtrack of hits classics from the likes of *Soft Cell*, *Avicci* and *Mixing Persons*. Of course, the games are much too simple for today's players and the novelty wears off. But if you regret selling your first system in a good sale, this is not a bad substitute.

THE OLYMPIAN (Sony)



If you liked the film *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*, try your hand at *The Olympian*, which is billed as a game for movie fans. Professional actors were cast to play the characters and 40 sq. mi. of London was painstakingly reconstructed to create a real British crime experience as possible. The two playable characters are a former gangster and a vigilante cop—who are trying to clear their names and exact revenge on a felonious crime lord. The game suffers a little in the control department: focus cameras, angles and players all a little awkward in action scenes and the lack of maps and other onscreen indicators make navigating the city difficult. But the graphics are stunning, and the soundtrack score is worthy of the big screen. REVIEWS BY BEEK CHIZZI



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## Music | Pop started with folk

The crowd at Toronto's Harbour Square Tavern is restless. They're anxious to see Blackie & the Rodeo Kings—a group made up of well-known Canadian musicians: Glen Velez, Stephen Fostering and Colin Linden with special guest Bruce Cockburn. That 15-year-old Liam Tizon is willing to sit on a stage, acoustic guitar in hand, and blow the air away. "It's about the music," Tizon says later. "It doesn't matter how old you are." But it does. Even with the huge popularity of such young musicians as Avril Lavigne and John Mayer, it's not that a teenager playing pop rock can wave a crowd-pleasing crowd looking for folkies.

Tizon, who's based in Toronto, comes by his talent honestly. His father, Brent, is a respected musician and songwriter who was in the '60s folk band Three's A Crowd, with Cockburn, and penned Sing High, Sing Low, which was recorded by Anne Murray and Donny and Marie Osmond. "I've probably slept under every tree in Toronto," jokes the teenager. That's his first public performance was at the age of two when, during one of his father's shows, he jumped on stage to play a ukulele. At five, he joined his father in gigs as a backup singer and percussionist. At seven, he picked up the Cyma Riddle. Today, Tizon also plays mandolin, steel pan, African drums (he joined the African Rhythms on stage at Toronto's

Ticondero is living a teenage boy's dream—a development deal with Sony Music Canada.

Caribou festival last summer) and, of course, guitar. And Brent is now his backup. "My dad is really tickled about this," he says.

Tizon is a developer at deal with Sony Music Canada and is busy writing songs that "twink the brain," he says. "Some people say I'm dark in my music, but the fact is there is war and poverty—I mean, teenagers my age see those things." He has also, of course, dropped out of Grade 10 with his parents' blessing (his mother Cheryl Russell works in the clothing area). "People go to school to learn about their career," he says. "Well, my career is now." **AMY CAMERON**

## Books | From Auschwitz to Bracebridge, alone

Of all the Second World War memoirs to come to print recently, one of the most affecting—a tragedy with a particularly poignant twist—is Eva Olsson's self-published Holocaust story, *Defending the Doors of Olsson*, which was written in Bracebridge, Ont., was both in Olsson in 1934 to a family of about 100 Jews. Almost her entire extended family—47 in all—fell victim to the Nazis. By 1945 only Eva and her youngest sister Freda had survived Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen. In Sweden after the war, Eva met and married a gentile named Rude Olsson. Freda, seemingly unaffected by her own camp experience of indifference, has ever since refused to recognize Eva as family. (The two women have spoken only once since 1945.) And here is a memoir that could have been an unbelievable testimony, Olsson has instead delivered strength and courage, and now visits classrooms around Ontario to share her story.



## BESTSELLERS

### Fiction

	PREVIOUS LAST WEEK
1. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	5
2. <b>CHOCOLATE OF TWILIGHT</b> , Robert Jordan (H)	2
3. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2
4. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2
5. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2
6. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2
7. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2
8. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2
9. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2
10. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2

### Non-fiction

1. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2
2. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2
3. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2
4. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2
5. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2
6. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2
7. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2
8. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2
9. <b>THE KIMBERLY</b> , Barbara Sanders (H)	2
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## NO SURRENDER IN FRANCE

The French take American insults in stride and add a few of their own

WHEN FRANCE'S INTER, the equivalent of CBC Radio One, reported that the French had become the butt of "obnoxious" jokes in the U.S., it figured they had to be whoppers. If the usually self-censored network provided no details, the American born men had to be outrageous, difficult to translate or both. Later *Le Monde*, France's high-brow newspaper of record, explained that the right-wing *National Review* had called the French "cheese-eating surrender monkeys," because of their opposition to invading Iraq. *National Review* columnist Jonah Goldberg had lifted the term from a *Simpson* episode in which Groundskeeper Willie greets a French class at Bart's school with a re-sounding "Bonjour, you cheese-eater/surrender monkeys." It also turned out that conservative commentator George Will had described Dominique de Villepin, the French foreign minister, as "oligarchs."

Monkeys? Oligarchs? To this trans-bred North American, the slurs harken back to less politically correct days. I remembered that "monkeys" was used to insult people who weren't yet called African-American. And wasn't oligarchy a synonym for group? As in "greasy Monicans" and "greasyball" in expression for dick-brained managers, including Greeks and Indians? In my humble transatlantic opinion, the anti-French witless snark of racism.

Yet the reaction in the French media was subdued. *Le Monde* criticized American commentators for stereotyping the French, reporting that "the global village is the kingdom of the idiot." But the paper acknowledged that many people in France have one-dimensional view of Americans, believing them to be "a bunch of trigger-happy cowboys led by a simple minded fundamentalist pastor" (*Le Figaro*, a right-of-center daily, put the monkey remark in a Darwinian perspective. "After regressing as a tedious archaism for eons, the Frenchman is now marked among the anthropoids," observed the paper, clearly believing that "hog" had fallen into disuse. But *Le Labor* de l'Est, a

daily in Tignes, a town that was razed during the Second World War, wasn't in a joking mood. "Should we feel angry?" asked an editorial writer. "Certainly not. Giving peace a chance is important even if it means being the target of pro-war opinion makers."

Interestingly, the response to the monkey moniker was more relaxed than the response to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's remark about France and Germany being "Old Europe." That one was difficult to swallow for Basileye Rachelat, the ecology minister, who superciliously said "nerds" when asked to comment. And writing in a Paris daily, Eric Lalonde, a former minister of the environment, wrote, "Americans go through the motions of democracy. But, in reality, they walk around armed to the teeth and spend their time shooting gaseously and Indians."

In the meantime, France-baiting continued unabated. The *Wall Street Journal* ran a piece denouncing President Jacques Chirac as Saddam Hussein's "object pro-ovine." And the *New York Post*, revealing that most Frenchmen oppose the war, mailed



"But then, the French are against everything, including their famous American habit of showering every day." U.S. wrath is even evident in bumper stickers that have shown up in New York: "First Iraq, then France."

An underlying theme of the mudslinging has been the Frenchman as-wimp. This would come as a surprise to at least some of the 600,000 French who died in the Second World War, not to mention the 26,000 soldiers who were killed in the Algerian war. But why let names get in the way of a good Internet pole? "The French are perfectly free to stay under the bed when the shooting starts," according to one wisecracker that is making the rounds. "They've been there before." And it's a wimp-up act to an address by a three-star general, one sergeant major recently asked 3,000 U.S. marines stationed in Kuwait: "How many French people does it take to defend Paris?" The answer: "None, because it's never been done before."

France has benefited from the negative publicity in some circles. When a *Washington Post* columnist argued that the U.S. case against Iraq was so strong that "only a fool—or possibly a Frenchman—could conclude otherwise," Emilio Menéndez del Valle, a Spanish member of the European Parliament, officially declared himself French. In fact, the French mission at the UN says it has received 12,000 favorable e-mail messages since Villepin's speech was applauded at the Security Council.

Germany does not seem to be bearing the brunt of the current wave of American jingoism—not to mention Russia, China or the most unrelenting peace advocate, the Vatican. A *Kennedy New Era* columnist even warned the French: "If your little power play causes too much delay and Saddam streaks over a nuclear bomb and kills my countrymen, I will be on the first plane to France to kick the cheese out of some surrender monkey butt." Why France when Germany is also opposed to invading Iraq? A *New England* columnist here suggests it's because many Americans feel betrayed. "We think of the French, not the Germans, as Iraq's friends." And why has the reaction been so subdued in France? "We've been to it," sighs a French friend. "The Brits have been on our backs for 900 years."

Michel Arsenault, a Canadian journalist based in Paris, is a regular contributor to *Maclean's* and other publications. Unusually responsive to e-mails.



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